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CHICAGO'S

Class-Conscious Municipal Political Fight.

NO "REFORM" CLAP-TRAP.

The Unemployed—Municipal Service—Public Education—Sanitation—A Comprehensive Platform that Allows no Pretence for Bait of Bourgeois Reform, Whereby the Very Things to be "Secured Now" Are Made all the Less Obtainable.

For Mayor,
AUG. KLENT.

For City Treasurer,
J. WANHOPE.

For City Clerk,
JAS. SMITH.

For City Attorney,
E. PEMENT.

THE PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor party of Chicago, by its delegates in convention assembled, declares its adherence to the principles set forth in the national party platform.

We hold that the present miserable condition of the working class of Chicago, as well of the rest of the capitalist world, with compulsory idleness, uncertainty of employment, and small portion of his product received by the laborers when permitted by the capitalists to work, is caused by the private ownership of the means of production and distribution by the capitalist class.

We therefore pledge our nominees, if elected, to immediately comply with the following demands:

(On Preamble.)—The worker cannot produce unless he can get the tools—the machines, mines, land and factories. He can not live unless he does so produce. But all such instruments are owned by the capitalist class, who buy labor power to operate them. Labor-saving machinery, constantly throwing men out of work, makes a body of unemployed who will work for just enough to keep them alive. But the capitalist will pay no laborer more than he is obliged to. Therefore, the tendency is to pay just enough to support life, the remainder going to the capitalist as profit.

Plank 1—The city shall furnish employment to all unemployed citizens by the establishment of public works to be operated co-operatively under the control of the municipality.

(On First Demand.)—The unemployed are created by capitalism and are necessary to its life. So long as the laborer is paid but a small part of what he produces he cannot buy back the whole product, so there is always an over-production. The continual progress of invention forces an army of men to seek work which cannot be supplied them under capitalism. But this army is absolutely necessary to the existence of our present society. If there were no unemployed to take their places the laborers could easily demand and obtain by a strike the whole produce of their labor. The "army of the unemployed" is far more effectual than the State militia or United States troops to keep the workers in subjection. No capitalist party dares to advocate its abolition. Therefore, we may rest assured that however much of our platform may be copied by so-called "reform" parties to catch votes, they will let this portion severely alone. That we are making no Utopian demand, or holding out impossible hopes to the laborer, is shown by the fact that in over one hundred cities in France where the Socialists are in power, one prominent feature of their work is the operation of municipal undertakings for the benefit of the unemployed.

Plank 2—We demand the municipalization of all public means of transportation, lighting and communication, the same to be operated co-operatively under the control of the municipality, the services to be furnished at cost to all, with wages of all employés as high as are paid for similar services by any private employers, and eight hours to constitute a day's work, save in the most laborious and disagreeable forms, where the hours shall be still further proportionally shortened.

(Second Demand—Municipalization.)—The Socialist sees in all middle class reform movements toward municipalization only a shifting of exploitation from the capitalist corporation to the capitalist municipality. He sees in such action only an attempt on the part of capitalism to hide its nefarious operations under the cloak of the State. So long as the government directing the operation of the industries and owning the instruments of production is composed of a different class from those who must use and operate them, such ownership will be used to exploit the workers. Could this movement be carried on "step by step," as some so-called "State Socialists" would wish, until all industry was merged in our present class government, it would simply mean that all political and all economic power would be united in one class and completely unified for action, and would constitute the mightiest engine for exploitation of the workers ever devised. Municipalization under the Socialist Labor party means that the workers have first through the election of their party gained control of the powers of government and that before owners and users of tools are the same.

Plank 3—We demand that no pains be spared in giving a thorough, free and universal education to all children in the public schools; that sufficient school buildings be immediately erected to afford adequate accommodation for all children of school age; that the laws against child labor be strictly enforced; and that provision be made for feeding and clothing school children where necessary, and that all school books be furnished free to all.

(Third Demand—School Accommodation.)—At present the children of the workers are left without proper accommodation in our public schools, notwithstanding that they need such preparation to fit them for the struggle of life more than any other class and are not able to procure it at any other place. Yet, whenever there is a "retrenchment" in the building of schools it is always made in the working neighborhoods. Not only should there be sufficient schools, but those pupils whose parents are prevented by the social condition into which they were born from providing them with proper food and clothing should be so provided for at public expense that they may be prepared for their duties as citizens. As Socialists, we would especially call the attention of the workers to the fact that only through their ignorance can their exploitation be maintained and only through education can their freedom be secured.

Plank 4—We demand that the medical and sanitary service of the city shall be so organized as to secure to all good medical care free of cost.

(Fourth Demand—Free Medical Care.)—Modern medical science has shown that the public health is no longer to be considered a matter for individual concern, and we hold that it is time for this fact to be recognized by society and action taken in accordance therewith.

Plank 5—We demand that the city provide free and commodious public baths and gymnasia; small parks to be located in the densely populated workingmen's quarters of the city, and free public drinking fountains for both man and beast in each ward.

(Fifth Demand—Public Parks, etc.)—Capitalist production has made the worker a slave to a machine during his working hours, and deprived him of all enjoyment in his labor. Therefore we hold that during his free hours he should have all possible means of enjoyment and recreation convenient to his home, as his meager wages and limited leisure preclude the use of those at a distance.

Plank 6—We demand the abolition of the veto power of the Mayor and the adoption of the initiative and referendum.

(Sixth Demand—Mayor's Veto, Initiative and Referendum.)—In this we enter our protest against the concentration of power as being a check on popular will and a surrender to one man of the people's rights and duties and demand that the voice of the people be given an opportunity to be heard. We recognize that this voice will be of small efficiency so long as the powers of government are all in capitalist hands, but we advocate it as a means to making audible the demands of labor, rather than to secure them. We recognize that without proper education the referendum and initiative, like the present ballot, may but prove a means to further deception and enslavement.

Plank 7—We demand that in all cases where workers are obliged to resort to strike the city government shall furnish every possible assistance to the strikers.

(Seventh Demand—Assistance to Strikers.)—Here again, as in our first demand, is an essentially working class demand and one which no reform party will dare to borrow. We hold that at present the power that makes the strike useless is the government of the whole capitalist class, which stands behind each individual capitalist whenever he is engaged in a struggle with the workers. We propose to place the power of the government behind the producers, not the idlers; the exploited, not the exploiters. That this is no impossible dream is seen by the recent action of the Socialists in the Paris municipal council, who voted the striking building-trade 20,000 francs for the benefit of their families and then actively gave them sympathy and encouragement at all points. Workmen, if you believe that the powers of government ought to be on your side when you are fighting for your right to live and to enjoy the fruits of your labor, vote the Socialist Labor party ticket. It is the only party that believes in that position. Vote the Socialist Labor party ticket by putting a cross (x) in the circle opposite the head of the ticket, thus

(X) SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

In presenting these demands we again call the attention of the working class to the fact that no permanent improvement can take place in their condition so long as capitalism exists, and we emphasize the fact that the Socialist Labor party stands for the complete overthrow of the competitive system and the substitution therefor of the Co-operative Commonwealth.

THE PEOPLE'S

MAY-DAY-ISSUE,

to be published Sunday, April 30, will be especially interesting.

Its special feature will be articles illustrating the standing and development of the Labor Movement in general, and of Socialism in particular, in the several States where the S. L. P. is organized.

The articles will be written by comrades familiar with, and prominent in the local movement. Also articles bearing upon the internationality of Socialism, and all the regular and striking features of THE PEOPLE.

Last but not least, the front page will be illuminated by an allegoric picture, especially designed for that issue, by THE PEOPLE'S able artist, whose work has won so much and deserved appreciation.

The size of this issue will be

Eight Pages,

but the price the same as usual.

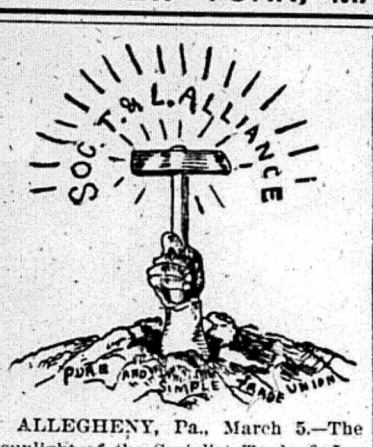
It will be an excellent issue for agitation. Sections and comrades should hasten to make use of this rare opportunity to spread our ideas by acquainting friends and co-workers with THE PEOPLE.

We expect to receive sufficient orders to be able to print not less than 75,000 copies.

Orders willl be taken till Tuesday, April 25th, inclusive. But the earlier the better.

Spread the May-Day People from ocean to ocean! A good Harvest is bound to follow.

"The People",
184 William St.
Box 1512 - - - N. Y. City.



ALLEGHENY, Pa., March 5.—The sunlight of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance is commencing to shine in Pennsylvania. We have just organized into that body representatives of every department of the Schoen Pressed Stell Company, a concern employing in their Allepheny works alone about 4,000 men, and are now leading the first intelligent economic fight of the working class on a large scale in this country.

A department of this concern went out on strike and was organized under the banner of New Trade Unionism on the afternoon of March 2; at the next two mass meetings, which were held, one on the evening of March 3 and one on the evening of March 4, all the other departments followed suit, and joined us. At the last meting a general strike was ordered, and thus the fray begins.

These shops, I believe, are about the best example to be had in this neighborhood of the extent of capitalist oppression and misrule. The place is known as the "slaughter house," on account of the numerous workingmen who are killed, maimed and injured there entirely on account of the company's neglect to adopt safer methods, and on account of the amount of work which the company (which, by the way, constitutes the Steel Car Trust) compells its men to perform.

We have made a demand for a general increase in wages.

We have made a demand to shut down a department until the body of a dead workingman, who happens to be butchered in that department, shall have been carried out.

We have made a demand that the mill is to be shut down during the 24 hours constituting the Sabbath Day.

We have demanded that the checks are to be delivered to the men before leaving work, in place of the 4,000 men being compelled to trample over each other after the whistle blows in order to prove that they have slaved one more day to enrich their capitalist employers. These demands will partially enlighten our comrades on some of the conditions that exist in mills.

Comrades Schulberg and Eberle organized the men Thursday, March 2. By the time the organization was completed on the 4th, the men had had explained to them that this is only a skirmish; the meaning of the class struggle; and the necessity of political action—all in such plain manner by Comrade Schulberg that the "Hunkeys" (other foreigners) and Americans, who had been fighting each other all along, now stand shoulder to shoulder and cheer each other to the echo.

The chances of winning are good, as is shown by the fact that the firm (which monopolizes the steel car business) is pressed for work and has already offered a raise of 10 cents a day to all men who get less than $2 a day.

The men are full of pluck and energy and under our Socialist leadership. We shall be able to hold out for quite a while. We do not yet know whether all the men will come out or not. We have very few comrades among them; but as several of our comrades are out of work, we will guide them day and night until this affair is finished.

The men we have so far organized and many others are hard after the S. L. P. buttons; they cleaned us out. We are even going without our buttons ourselves, and have telegraphed to New York to express 1,000 at once. The men are proud to wear them, and through the combined efforts of Comrades Remmel, Root, Schulberg, Eberle, Peter and Stamper we have made excellent progress in clarifying them.

To illustrate, Col. Wyat and our venreable ex-"friend" Thomas Grundy got wind of the second meeting, and when at their own request, we allowed each the floor for twenty minutes, they did their best to side-track us. Schulberg's reply knocked them flat, captured the audience and, had we said the word, those two "pure and simplers" would either have gone through the windows or been kicked down the stairs. As it was, when the hat was passed around, they tried to sneak out, but the crowd closed the door and made them contribute. White with rage and disappointed at our success they then disappeared.

We have cleaned ourselves out of literature of every kind, and will need S. T. & L. A. dues-cards and manifestos at once. We have used up so far 2,000 manifestos and have enrolled nearly 200 signers. Must have more supplies at once, so that we can complete the organization without delay. The S. L. P. Section ordered 1,000 copies of THE PEOPLE containing this report.

* * *

LATER.—On the 6th instant, Comrade Schulberg, who so far had led the strike, was arrested; the 4,000 men are out on strike.

—Wm. L. Brower, the National Secretary of the S. T. & L. A. left New York early on the 7th for Allegheny to take charge.

THOROUGH WORK.

What Oakland, Cal., Socialists Want.

Their Municipal Platform in the Present Municipal Elections—No Pub lc Ownership a la Glasgow—This Bait, now Used by all the Capitali t Local Parties, to be Thoroughly Exposed—Surprise of Old Party Hacks at the Voluntary Activity of the Socialists.

OAKLAND, Cal., Feb. 27.—The below is a copy of the campaign paper issued by Section Oakland for distribution in the present municipal campaign. This is the first issue of 15,000; the second issue, also of 15,000, will contain a showing up of the other parties' platforms and principles.

The Democratic, Republican, Independent, Municipal League, and Pops, each and every one of them has the "public ownership" of water works scheme in. It will be our purpose to show them up, and tell the working class how they will get fooled if they "gain" "public ownership" under the capitalist class.

We divided our city into 20 districts, and on Sunday morning, at 8 a. m., started out to enlighten the wage slaves by leaving a copy in each house. We worked hard, and by now had our task finished without one cent of cost. Every comrade felt that he was working for principle and not money, and having an interest in the advancement of Socialism, took pleasure in seeing that no paper was wasted but put into each home.

The old parties cannot understand how we do so much work, with so little money; they were surprised to see our candidates peddling papers from house to house.

Sunday, March 5, we will repeat the dose, and then rest until election day, March 13. If we don't increase our vote 100 per cent. it will not be our fault. W. H. CHAPMAN.

This is our platform:

The Socialist Labor party of Oakland, in convention assembled, declares its unfaltering allegiance to the principles set forth in the national platform of the party.

Its nominees for the several offices to be filled at the municipal election of March 13, 1899, are pledged to the support of the following principles:

First—We demand the formation of a charter that shall secure real democratic self-government to the city, embodying the principles of the initiative, referendum and direct responsibility of all officers to their constituents.

Second—We demand the repeal of all ordinances interfering with or abrogating the rights of free speech, and of peaceful assemblage, guaranteed to every citizen by the State and National constitutions. We draw the attention of the citizens of Oakland to the fact that such an ordinance is at present upon the statute book, and that by its authority citizens have been arrested, thrown into prison, and denied the right of depositing cash bail.

Third—We demand that the city obtain possession of the water plants, gas and electric light plants, the street car lines, and all the industries requiring municipal franchises; that such industries shall be carried on co-operatively by the employés under control of the city government, the employés electing their superior officers, and that no employé be discharged for political reasons.

Fourth—We demand that the city shall establish free dispensaries where medicines and attendance may be obtained by those in need.

Fifth—We demand that the full power of the city shall be exercised in providing employment for those unemployed persons who have resided in Oakland for one year.

Sixth—Since the working class needs all possible knowledge and training, we therefore imperatively demand that no pains be spared in giving thorough, free, universal and democratic education in the public schools; that the laws against child labor be strictly enforced; that provision be made for feeding and clothing school children, when necessary, and that school books be furnished free to all.

Seventh—We demand that political economy be taught in all public schools.

Eighth—We demand that the contract system in public works be entirely abolished; that all work done for the city be paid for at full or union wages, in no case less than $2 per day; that eight hours constitute a day's work; that men and women receive equal pay for equal work, and that all materials used be bought from firms employing union labor.

Ninth—We demand that the city provide free public baths and gymnasiums, and that toilet retreats be created in parks and such other public places as are required for the public good.

Tenth—We condemn the present system of vagrancy laws which treat poverty as a crime, and the so-called organized charities, which are used to supply cheap labor to unfair employers.

These are our immediate demands, the first step toward the realization of the Socialist Commonwealth, in which each worker shall enjoy the full fruit of his labor. To them we pledge our support. And we call on you to aid in carrying them into effect.

The Socialist Labor party never compromises truth to make a friend, never withholds a blow at error lest it make an enemy. In firm assurance of final victory it pursues its course unswerved by desire for temporary advantage. It is very outspoken and straightforward, believing that in fearless independence the integrity of purpose by which it is inspired will, in the end, win the respect and confidence of those whom it aims to weld into a class-conscious, aggressive body. Its propaganda is not alone to educate; it is to organize the working class for the conquest of power, for the complete overthrow of capitalism. Until that mission is accomplished, it will stand firm as a rock, yet alert and watchful, yielding nothing.

Class-Conscious Workers.

WHERAS, The question of the annexation of the Philippines is under discussion by the United States Senate and by the people in general, and

WHEREAS, Those favoring annexation claim that this country will be greatly benefited thereby by expansion of trade and so forth, and also that the inhabitants of said Islands will be benefited by the influence of our civilization and system of Government; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we, the Cigarmakers' International Union No. 39, of New Haven, Conn., protest against the annexation of the Philippines for the following reasons. The working class of this country will be obliged to compete with the working class of the Philippines, thereby bringing wages down still lower than they are at present, laying bare the false claims of those favoring annexation, that it will be of great benefit to the people of this country. That it is not the finding of foreign markets which will benefit the wage workers of this country, who are the majority of the people and who will not receive one cent more in wages, but will be obliged to suffer still further reductions in wages which reduces proportionally their already limited purchasing power. But the opening up of our home markets which is necessary, i. e., letting the working class consume that which they produce but cannot buy back on account of our capitalist system of production which allows them in wages about one-fourth of the value which they produce, thus causing markets to be overstocked with everything which we are in need of: therfore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the Cigarmakers' International Union of New Haven, Conn., recognizing our class interests economically and politically, and recognizing the fact that the interests of the capitalist class, and only the interests of that class, are considered by our Congressmen and Senators in this question of annexation or any other question which affects us, and also recognizing the rights of the Filipinos to govern themselves in their own way the same as we insisted upon and fought for when we tired of England's oppression and set up our own Government.

We therfore call upon the working class to unite at the ballot box and elect only class-conscious Socialists who stand for the overthrow of the capitalist system and the establishing of the Co-operative Commonwealth.

The Cigarmakers' International Union No. 39.
MEYER STODEL, Secretary.
New Haven, Conn. Jan. 24, 1899.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time, it will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

A QUERY.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 6.—The below communication from a capitalist of hereabout was published in the "Age-Herald," of this city, on the subject of our cotton mills:

In an editorial in your issue of the 21st instant you refer to the location in Huntsville of the great Merrimac cotton mill, and also to the New York company's mill near Rome, Ga. You draw the conclusion that other New England cotton mills can be induced to locate here, and you add: "The Alabama towns should wake up, and Birmingham is one of the number." I desire to say in behalf of the Commercial Club that we have not been asleep in this matter. The club has had extended correspondence with New England cotton mill men. The New York mill you mention is a case in point. Last summer I saw a notice in one of the trade journals that Mr. Wolcott of the New York mills had decided to build a branch in the South. I wrote to him and requested him to investigate the advantages of Birmingham. He replied that he had already visited this city and looked over the field. He found everything favorable except one, viz.: High-priced labor. Mr. Butler, nephew of General Butler, also visited Birmingham with the view of locating a cotton mill here. He made the same objection that Mr. Wolcott offered. He said that the workingmen in the Birmingham District received good wages and could support their families without the necessity of having their wives and daughters work in a cotton mill. Now, Mr. Editor, if you can answer this objection satisfactorily to the New England cotton manufacturers we can get any number of mills for Birmingham. You know that labor is about 90 per cent. of the cost of manufacturing cotton goods. High-priced labor over-balances the advantages we offer in the way of cotton, cheap coal, railroads, proximity to tide-water, etc. You have no doubt observed that nearly all the New Englanders have located their Southern mills at a distance from manufacturing centers, and in the midst of country people, who can afford to work for small wages in the mill because they RAISE ALL THEY EAT ON THEIR FARMS.

People who work in the mills from dark to dark, and "who raise all they eat"—when do they do the raising, by moon-light?

And is this sort of thing in store for us Alabamans when "the State is developed"?

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

SHADOWS AHEAD.

The Latest Plan is the Trustification of Charity.

An Address Delivered in Boston by a "Philosopher and Statesman" Forecasts a New Development—The Unemployed, Becoming Paupers, to be Organized into State Institutions and Pitted Against Private Syndicates—The Maryland Penitentiary.

BOSTON, Mass., March 4.—The Boston "Herald" of Feb. 20, 1899, gives nearly a column to an epitome of an address by G. W. R. Harriman before the citizenship class at the South Congregational Church in Boston. The speaker boldly advocated "Capitalization of Charity." He showed that this is an era of capitalization and concentration, and cited figures to prove that Massachusetts outside of private efforts, requires space equal to seven times the area of Hyde Park, a manufacturing town outside Boston, and requires a poor-house plant worth in dollars full three times as much as all the buildings, machinery, motive power, implements and tools are used in that town in its manufactures. "We have the same number of able-bodied laborers in our poor-house plant as there are laborers in that town's manufacturies; now," he continued, "if a plant, equal only to one-third in value, can pay over $1,051,000 for labor alone in one year, beside operating expenses and dividends on its capital stock, don't you suppose that a good businessman could take the other plant with a more valuable earning power, and make it at least pay its operating expenses? When the people get ready to humanize the poor, they will adopt the corporation form of consolidation, and not the crude methods of isolating."

The Governor of this State, in his last message, stated that steps will soon have to be taken to concentrate public institutions, charitable and criminal. All these shadows of coming events tend to the final climax pointed out by Frederick Engels in his recapitulation of that very excellent little pamphlet, "Socialism Reduced from Utopia to Science."

The United Boot and Shoe Machinery Company, capital $25,000,000, is organized. The Boston "Herald" editorially says this combination, acting with the leather trust, will place the shoe manufacturers in a tight place.

Thus we see on every hand an accelerated speed in the concentration of capital filling, aye crowding, the labor market with idle hands, who crawl into individual poor-houses and barely exist by leaning on some one or other of their relatives or friends who are fortunate enough to be able to afford them a slight relief. "Pure and simple" trades unions are powerless to fight this transition of capital. I said to a representative of the A. F. of L.: "If you had every worker in the United States organized and holding a paid-up dues card in his hand, you cannot in the present form and ownership of capital find four hours' work each day for fifty per cent. of the entire trades, your organization is as powerless as a street mob in face of Gatling guns, or unarmed strikers in conflict with Federal troops.

If Mr. G. W. R. Harriman's suggestion is carried out, and charities become trustified, it will bring the idle masses into organized form, and in short time their productive powers will be pitted by the State (National Charity Organization) against the private syndicates, and pure and simple trades unions. The objection to prison-made goods in competition with honest labor products will not hold good against the products of Trustified or Capitalized Charity.

Maryland has completed a million dollar penitentiary, where the living wages and labor, etc., are for the penitent transgressor on the whole superior to the conditions generally imposed on the shoemakers in this State working in private factories and holding membership in trades unions of the Samuel Gompers and John A. Tobin stripe.

Mr. Harriman bases his figures on ten thousand able-bodied poor; there are at least ten times that number now living in holes called homes in this State, waiting for prosperity.

ERIN.

A third 5,000 edition of the pamphlet "What Means this Strike?" is now out. Its large sale is a gratifying sign of the times, and it is an evidence of the class of literature that is most useful and, consequently, best called for.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

The English translation of Karl Marx' "Eigteenth Brumaire," that some time ago ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages, with Marx' picture as frontispiece. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student, even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E. 4th street, N. Y. City. Price, 25 cents.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

THE PEOPLE.

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— EVERY SUNDAY. —

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Invariably in advance:

One year	$0.50
Six months	0.25
Single copies	0.02

As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned if so desired and stamps are enclosed.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post office on April 6, 1891.

ALLIED PRINTING TRADES UNION LABEL COUNCIL NEW YORK CITY

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In	1888 (Presidential)	2 068
In	1890	13 331
In	1892 (Presidential)	21 157
In	1894	33 133
In	1896 (Presidential)	36 564
In	1898	82,204

All effort, from whatever source it may proceed, looking to the loosening or sundering of the bonds between the trade-union movement and the Social-Democratic Party (Socialist Labor Party of Germany), is to be looked upon as hostile to the interests of the working class.

TRADE UNION CONGRESS,
Halle, Germany, May 19, 1897.

NICARAGUA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

It is not in biology only that distant things appear closely connected. The same is true in sociology. An earthquake in Java may produce a tidal-wave along the coasts of Portugal; and the one and the other may both be simultaneous products of one central cause. Just so in Sociology. The political commotion now going on simultaneously in the Republic of Nicaragua and in the Archipelago of the Philippines is a case in point.

In the Philippines, Filipinos are being slaughtered right and left; what with the casualties on both sides, the diseases that break out in our camp around Manila, the consequent suffering of the whole population now in hand to hand conflict there, the Philippines are in terrific commotion: one sees there reproduced, on the social field, all the furies that, on the material field, is seen in cases of earthquakes.

While that is going on in the antipodes, a social tidal-wave strikes the shores of Nicaragua. Men are seen to rise in arms; they array themselves in hostile camps, pursue and draw themselves up against each other; blood flows; lives are lost; conflagrations consume homes and devastate fields. To all external appearances, at least, the spectacle in the Philippines and the spectacle in Nicaragua are alike. There would be nothing instructive in this fact, were it the only fact; but it is not.

The bloodshed and desolation in Nicaragua is connected, closely connected, with the bloodshed and desolation in the Philippines, as closely connected as was the Java earthquake with the tidal-wave that knocked Lisbon into heap of ruins. As both the latter were the result of a central physical disturbance, proceeding from the center of our globe, so the former are both the result of a central socio-economic disorder, proceeding from one socio-economic center. What that disorder is and which that social center, the following dispatch brings out clear enough:

> New York financiers, whose contract to build the Nicaraguan Canal, expires in October next, are back of a scheme to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government in order to secure from the new Government concessions which will enable them permanently to control the building of the canal.

Several times have we taken occasion to point the moral taught by similar facts and tersely expressed by P. J. Dunning:

> Capital is said to fly disturbance and strife and to be timid, which is very true; but this is very incompletely stating the question. Capital eschews no profit, or very small profit, just as Nature was formerly said to abhor a vacuum. With adequate profit, capital is very bold. A certain 10 per cent. will insure its employment anywhere; 20 per cent. certain, will produce eagerness; 50 per cent., positive audacity; 100 per cent., will make it ready to trample on all human laws; 300 per cent., and there is not a crime at which it will scruple, nor a risk it will not run, even the chance of its owner being hanged. If turbulence and strife will bring a profit, it will freely encourage both.

From the socio-economic center of United States capitalism,—congested, smothering in the mammoth hugeness of its plunder from the working class, and driven, like explosive gases, by the very law of its existence, to expand and absorb—, from that center is proceeding now the simultaneous turbulence and strife that, like earthquakes and tidal-waves, are now shaking Nicaragua and the antipodal Philippines, bringing death and desolation to their peoples—and mourning into many an American home.

Civilization, resting (?) on capitalism; rests (?) on a volcano.

STORMS OVERHEAD.

The clash of capitalist interests betwen the Manhattan Elevated and the Tammany Hall Companies seems to have somewhat subsided. Nevertheless, there is yet a third socio-economic grape worth tne while to cull from the bunch.

While the Tammany-Manhattan storm raged, much was said about drip-pans, compressed air, electric motor power; also a good deal upon improvements that might, could, would or should or should not be made. But in the midst of all that din, did anyone hear a note, even the vaguest of vague sounds, on the subject of the wages, the hours of work and the like of the employés, i. e., of the men who really operate the road? Nary a note or sound.

The engineers on the road, many of whom have reached an age that entitles them to rest and the dignified enjoyment of their years; the conductors, the gate and ticket men, and a host of other underpaid, pinched wage slaves of the Manhattan Road,—these did not come in a moment for consideration. They were as if they were not. Issues, that, under any decent and rational social system, would be the paramount subject for consideration—the welfare of the body of men who collectively cater to the bulk of the traffic of this city—, such issues were not even suppressed: they were thought of so little that they never entered the minds of the disputants; the only issues considered were those that would affect the plunder of the capitalists engaged in the quarrel.

A class-conscious working class is no more an active participant in a nation's affairs than horses or cattle. Both cattle and horses "participate," but only in so far as their "participation" is controlled by and profitable to their masters: the cattle will "participate" by furnishing food, via the slaughter-house, to their masters; the horses will "participate" by carrying their masters on their backs; outside of that, there is no participation by them, nor are they at all taken into consideration. Ditto, ditto with a class-unconscious working class.

The issues that are raised by capitalists against one another concern only themselves; nor do they raise any others. Violent though the clash of such elements may be; wild though the fur may fly in the tussle;—these are but storms over the heads of the proletariat; they rage and lull and go down without reaching down. Only when a nation's proletariat becomes conscious of its own class interests will the social issues and storms concern it; nay, more, then all the social issues will proceed from ITS own camp to the exclusion of all others.

Only then is progress possible; not before.

"WHY SHOULD HE?" OR "FOOLED ONCE MORE".

The latest act in the tragic-comic play that may be entitled: "The Federal 8-hour Law," recalls to mind an interesting incident, and solves what some might consider a mystery connected therewith.

Some little time ago, the odd collection of labor fakirs, that used to meet regularly once a week in this city in order to advertise themselves to the politicians as the Central Labor Union, and that more recently went through the farce of "uniting" with an other body that did not exist, issued its "orders," "requests" or whatever one may call it, to the New York Senators and Representatives in Congress that they support the "8-hour bill" that was again struggling in and out of the Congressional pigeonholes. The interesting incident and the mystery above referred to occurred when one of the answers arrived. It was the answer of Senator Platt. His answer was to the effect that "he did not know of any reason why he should not vote for the bill."

This somewhat Delphic-oracle way of mystifying a questioner was a puzzler to many. Could Platt, the employer of convict labor in Tennessee, possibly favor an 8-hour law? If he did, why did he not come out fully and give the "unpractical" Socialists another black eye by proving the brotherhood of Capital and Labor; if he did not, what could his object be in seeming friendly when the time would surely come that he would have to show his hands in the matter? The mystery is now solved.

Among the many bills that congested the last hours of the Senate, was this "8-hour bill." A motion was then made and CARRIED that "the bill be taken up." And what happened then? Then the unsophisticated discovered that a vote to "take up" a bill may not amount to anything. Just as soon as the motion to "take up" was carried in good and great style, the Senate dropped the whole affair by proceeding with the consideration of appropriation and other, to capitalists, more interesting bills, and—the "8-hour bill" was never again thought of!

Does not this proceeding explain the Platt riddle?

Was there, could there be any reason why he should vote "No" on the "8-hour bill" when he knew that there was no chance of the bill being voted on at all?

"Why Should He?" or "Fooled Once More" will make a good play that the working class may derive both pleasure and instruction from.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

SOCIALISM AND CRIMINALS.

By Prof. ENRICO FERRI.

[Translated from the Italian Socialist Almanac for 1899 by Theodore Ritter, Rome, Italy.]

Socialism consists, in part, of doctrines exclusively economic and these have had their complete fundamental development, especially as regards criticism and history.

But from Socialism flows an entirely new current of scientific ideas, not only through the economic domain, but also through the moral, intellectual, legislative, artistic and political.

However, as no science is formed complete and perfect as the work of its originator, so Socialism scientifically and positively established by Karl Marx must renovate thoroughly all common opinions and mental habits.

One of these, and it is very important, regards the method of judging criminals.

That the perpetrators of a political crime, whether committed only by voice or pen or accompanied by some common form of crime such as homicide, should not be punished and treated as common criminals, is an opinion that the Italians have by tradition. The conspiracies, revolts and attempted assassinations (such as by Orsini, Agesilao Milato, Oberdan, etc.) that for more than half a century bathed with martyrs' blood the epopee of national independence have taught the Italians and are teaching them still, in their schools, that the perpetrators of a political crime, that is, a crime committed with political aims, even if mistaken or illusory, should not be confounded with common assassins, thieves and violators.

But regarding ordinary crimes, such as assassination for revenge, the torturing of children by their mother, crimes of violence and cruelty, also Socialists continue in the old way of thinking and invoke upon them the severe penalties of justice, the torments of the prison cell or even the infamous death penalty.

Instead, Socialists should become convinced of those scientific truths that have no direct relations with our economic or political doctrine, but that pertain to the renovation of human judgment, emancipating it from the prejudices of the middle ages.

Less than a century ago, an eminent German physician, Heinroth, in one of his books published in 1805, revived the ancient prejudice that insanity is not a disease that affects the brain as consumption affects the lungs, but is instead the result of individual depravity and wickedness! And in consequence of this prejudice, the insane were treated like reprobates and criminals; they were chained and tortured.

At present, enlightened by science, society pities the insane and neither hates nor punishes them as criminals even when they commit incendiarism or homicide. But society continues, however, to hate and take vengeance on criminals—who have no EVIDENT form of insanity—actuated by the prejudice that crime depends upon the wicked and perverse will of the individual! And legislators and judges and jailers—in good faith, as did the directors of insane asylums until 80 years ago—chain or bury alive in prison cells assassins, violators, etc.

Modern science, however, has demonstrated that crime is also a disease whether hereditary, infectious, incurable or curable. As a person born with a morbid tendency to insanity or suicide—but living in favorable social conditions may die without becoming insane or committing suicide—and as a person becomes insane or commits suicide on account of disease or sudden misfortune;—so a person born with a morbid tendency to murder, theft, violence or incendiarism—if he has the fortune to live in favorable social conditions may die without having committed crime—and so a person becomes a murderer, violator, incendiary or thief in an attack of sudden passion or on account of degeneration of the social sense (the sense of the lawful and unlawful).

Thus no one is a criminal by his own free will. Caserio, for example, although he was an assassin actuated by political fanaticism, in letters written two years before he assassinated President Carnot, confessed that although he held the theory that private property is wrong, although he suffered hunger, he felt an insuperable repugnance to theft and did not steal. So it occurs that a person suffering the torments of want, rather than become a highwayman, commits suicide or suffers hunger, for the reason that one is not a criminal by his own free will; but crime is a disease, severe or light, hereditary or infectious, like insanity, cretinism, tuberculosis, epilepsy, etc.

This, naturally, does not mean that murderers, violators and incendiaries are to be left at liberty. No: as the insane and violent are placed in confinement, so criminals should be segregated for a long or short time according to the gravity of the disease. But they should be treated like the sick and not like "wild beasts." Prison cells—hypocritical and stupid institutions of vengeance of society—should be superceded by agricultural colonies where criminals are segregated, as the insane are now, but in endurable and healthful conditions of life.

Thus penal law will be purified of that spirit of hatred and of public vengeance which now debases it by hereditary tradition from the most barbarous ages.

And when penal law shall no longer have the spirit of "public revenge" in treating common criminals, so much the more will it lose that spirit in the case of political offenders. Because scientific truths always have the effect of advancing true civilization and raising the standard of public and individual morality.

Therefore let conscientious Socialists accustom themselves to no longer regard the sad phenomenon of crime as the effect of individual perversity, but as the effect of personal disease, either hereditary or caused by bad social conditions (by material want, by lack of education and by lack of moral training).

Hatred and revenge are anti-social sentiments and are therefore absurd even when their object is the most ferocious assassin. They ought to disappear from the mind of every man as well as from the laws of society.

Socialism—that undertakes the renovation of human judgment according to the data of positive science—will prove to the world also this truth that criminals should not be tortured or made the objects of vengeance, but should be prevented from injuring others and be reformed or cured as physicians relieve or cure the sick.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

Says the Minneapolis, Minn., "Tocsin" with Socialist accuracy and directness:

> It is not to be claimed that we are more intelligent than our opponents. Socialists do not pretend to be made of superior clay. There are men just as bright in the Republican and Democratic parties. Yet the Republicans, honestly or dishonestly, made claims that have been completely refuted by less than a year's history. And the Silverites, honestly or dishonestly, endorsed those claims. The "Reformers" are now compelled to change their tune. They, who, last summer, shouted for the "glorious war of liberation," are now howling against the imperial policy to which that was the natural prelude. Why are not we, too, compelled to retract and explain?
>
> The answer is simple: Because we of the S. L. P. based our predictions on a knowledge of history and economics, because we recognized the truth that economic reasons overrule sentiment, because we understand the essential fact of the class struggle.

In its advertising columns, the Chicago "Tribune" of the 19th of last month has this item:

> SITUATION WANTED—Good carpenters will work for old clothes. X725 Tribune office.

Quoting, and commenting upon, similar evidences of prosperity, the San Francisco, Cal., "Class Struggle" has this:

> "Good man, 35, will work for 50c. day, board self. Mc——, 1258 13th street.
>
> "Wanted—Work of any kind by young man; experienced electrician; educated. D—410, Post."—Denver Post.
>
> Of course these men are in their present condition because they have been "lazy, shiftless, drunken, extravagant, etc., etc.," and of course it is because "they don't want work" at all that they are now advertising to do "work of any kind." Imagine a man offering to work for 50 cents per day, and board self." Why! he can make more than that begging. But then these workers never did understand b-e-e-s-ness.

A new Socialist publication—"The Wage Worker"—, published in Kansas City, Mo., from 1208 Walnut street under direction of the S. L. P. Section of that city, has made its appearance and is hereby welcomed on the field of class-conscious propaganda. In point of sentiment, it introduces itself with these touching lines from the poet:

> Whether on life's peaceful plane
> Or in the battle's van,
> The only fight that's not in vain
> Is when we fight for man.

In point of practical sense, it salutes the world with weighty words—words that cover the whole, but often misunderstood, gamut of the Labor Movement: the need of political as well as industrial, of industrial as well as political, class-conscious organization of the proletariat. It says:

> The "Wage Worker" carries from the toiling millions a message, a cry of justice, that demands attention. The cry itself is inarticulate, a groan of anguish, a sigh of sorrow, a wail of children shut out from the joys of life, a sob of hopeless grief coming from the true heart of this great nation. It is the purpose of the "Wage Worker" to interpret this cry to the busy world of men and women, and to repeat it, and to insist upon it with ever increasing emphasis, until the cry is heard, understood and heeded.
>
> Huge corporations and trusts are a necessary stage in the unification of industry. Recognizing the attendant evils of the present stage we look forward, not backward, for the remedy and do not propose to waste our energy and your time by advocating "reforms" that do not go to the root of the evils.
>
> We understand fully that Socialism is not a thing that can be pared with a knife or eaten with a spoon, it is not a particular point of the compass to which we are all "marching"; it is not an altitude some indefinite distance above the earth, to be reached by a ladder one round at a time; it is not a purgative, or palliative porous plaster—in fact it is not a material thing and can only be considered and applied by and for what it actually is—a clear, unrelenting SCIENCE, a stern, unalterable TRUTH.
>
> Believing that the chief factor in the emancipation of the wage slaves will be the intelligent, united political action of the workingmen themselves, we shall follow the tactics of the International Socialist Labor party in striving to unite the wage workers into a compact, class-conscious, POLITICAL and INDUSTRIAL party, for the abolition of classes and the establishment of political and industrial freedom.

The Milwaukee, Wis., correspondent to the New York "Vorwaerts," German organ of the S. L. P., throws some interesting light upon the "victories" that are periodically bragged about as having been won by the "pure and simple" labor fakirs. He refers more particularly to the recent "victories" that the Kurzenknabe brigade of labor misleaders claim to have won from the brewery employers. In a previous letter the correspondent had stated that the "victory" of the brewers in Sheboygan, Wis., was very problematical: the lay-off system nullified all seeming increases of wages, making the increase a snare and a delusion, and the "victory" a lie for which the rank and file had to bleed, while the leaders prospered. In this last letter to the "Vorwaerts" the correspondent proves his point with a quotation from the "Brauerzeitung" itself. He says:

> The "victory" of our (Milwaukee) Brewers' Union No. 9 is now several years old, and is renewed by contract from year to year. Now read the following passage, that I take from the report of the National Executive published in the "Brauerzeitung":
>
> "A request from Local Union No. 9, Milwaukee, Wis., for the remittance of a quarter's dues to the Reserve Fund had to be denied, the National Executive having no power to grant such requests. Local Union argued that many of its members, OWING TO THE EXTREME TO WHICH THE LAY-OFF SYSTEM IS CARRIED, EARN ONLY ENOUGH TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES, AND ARE UNABLE TO PAY DUES. The National Executive does not consider itself authorized to act in this matter, SEEING THAT MANY OTHER LOCAL UNIONS COULD MAKE THE LIKE APPLICATIONS FOR THE IDENTICAL REASONS."

There is hardly an exception to the rule: "Look closely into a pure and simple victory, and it will be found a fraud."

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

Uncle Sam & Brother Jonathan

Brother Jonathan—I can't explain how it is that Socialism is not adopted more rapidly than it is. There must be some defect in the way in which it is presented.

Uncle Sam—What do you imagine is the defect?

B. J.—I can't tell. If anyone simply considers that Christ was a Socialist—

U. S.—Hello, there! What was that? CHRIST a SOCIALIST?

B. J.—Yes.

U. S.—Nay, nay, my good man! The surest way to prevent people from understanding Socialism would be to declare Christ a Socialist. Such a statement would be sure to muddle up people so completely that the schemers and "reformers" could keep on bamboozling them forever. What ever the light in which Christ be considered, he was no Socialist, and could have been none.

B. J. (filled with amazement)—Do you mean to say that Jesus was a bad man, that he had a cruel capitalist heart?

U. S.—I don't mean to dodge the question by first putting an other to you. I shall answer you. But be good enough to answer me these few questions first: Do you think that Jesus liked to waste time?

B. J.—I don't think he did.

U. S.—When he stood by the lake of Gennesaret, and entered into one of the ships, and he told Simon to launch out into the deep, would he not have preferred to get out into the deep quickly, rather than slowly?

B. J.—Quickly, I should think.

U. S.—One more question, had he been able to get into a steam tug-boat, would he not have preferred that to the slow-moving yawl?

B. J.—Guess he would.

U. S.—And now a final question: Why didn't he?

B. J.—Why he didn't? Why, simply because there were no steam tug-boats in existence then.

U. S.—Correct, correct! Consequently, his taking of a yawl was not the result of his liking to waste time.

B. J.—'Course not.

U. S.—Now, for the same reason, Jesus' not being a Socialist is not an evidence of his having been a bad man, or having had a cruel capitalist heart. He was no Socialist, and could have been none, simply for a reason similar to the reason he had at the lake of Gennesaret for not entering into a steam tug-boat—there was none in existence to enter into. So, likewise, he was not, and could not be, a Socialist because Socialism was not yet possible.

B. J.—Did he not favor a community of goods?

U. S.—At any rate his disciples did; but that is not Socialism.

B. J.—What, then, is Socialism?

U. S.—Socialism is that social system where WORK is DONE co-operatively. Socialism does not imply a community of goods, it implies a common ownership of the machinery by which the goods are produced. The goods thus produced are not held in common; everyone has that share of the total that is equivalent to his share of labor in producing it. Community of goods means common ENJOYMENT; Socialism means common WORK—each man then enjoying his share of the common product in whatever manner may suit his bent.

B. J.—I can't yet see, from this, why Jesus could not have been a Socialist.

U. S.—What I said proves that Jesus could not have been a Socialist BECAUSE the common ownership of the instruments of production can have no sense until they are of such gigantic structure and great productive power that no one man, or small set of men, can operate them. In the days of Jesus the tool of production was in its most infant state, pliable by the individual; hence, it was owned by the individual; hence, nothing that even approximates Socialism could then have been possible. Socialism is the apex of a pyramid whose broad basis is the mechanical knowledge slowly acquired by man long after the year 32 A. D.

B. J.—But even so, if you look at Socialism from the side of a noble moral aspiration, would you not say that Jesus WAS a Socialist?

U. S.—You little imagine what serious tactical errors and misconceptions you open the door to by putting the matter that way. The aspirations of man depend upon the material basis of the society of his time—

B. J.—But Jesus—

U. S.—I know what you mean to say, just wait. When will you be able to embrace a broader horizon, when you stand down in a valley, or when you stand on a hill-top?

B. J.—When I stand on a hill-top.

U. S.—The lower the hill, the narrower your horizon?

B. J.—Yes.

U. S.—And the higher the hill, the broader your horizon?

B. J.—Just so.

U. S.—And will the nobility of your aspirations enable you to see as far when you stand on a small hill as when you stand on a high one?

B. J.—'Course not.

U. S.—Just so with the noble aspirations of man. The material basis of the social system in which man lives is the elevation that intelligently determines his aspirations. The material basis of society is its system of production, and that depends upon its capacity to produce wealth. The less the wealth producible, the lower is the level that determines man's moral horizon, his aspirations; the larger the quantity of wealth producible, the higher also is the level that determines man's moral horizon, his aspirations. The noble aspirations of Socialism could not have existed before there existed the present machinery of production, that renders co-operative labor compulsory and so productive that the burden of toil can be safely raised from the shoulders of the race, insuring to all not only affluence, but freedom from that worst, most malignant of all spectres—the fear of want. Socialism—neither as a social-material basis, nor as an aspiration—, could have existed in the days of Jesus. The social economy of Jesus and his disciples was that of equality of poverty; the social economy of Socialism is equality of opportunity to enjoy the affluence now possible.

B. J.—What, then, becomes of Sir Thomas More, of Plato, of Harrington? Did not all these noble men, who clearly aspired after humaner conditions, as shown by the books they wrote, did not they see clean ahead, notwithstanding they did not stand, and could not have stood, upon the high material basis of our present society? Were not they Socialists either?

U. S.—No; they did not see CLEAN AHEAD; nor were they Socialists; could not be. The material basis of the social system, that all of these lived in, so limited their horizons that they schemed social orders, in point of labor and production, entirely in keeping with the material conditions of their own times.

B. J.—But their aspirations; their aspirations after universal well-being; does not that make them out Socialists?

U. S.—No more than a child is a man, though the two have lots in common.

B. J. opens his eyes in amazement.

U. S.—You open your eyes, and seem stunned. Yet the thing is plain. A part is not a whole. The heart may have yearnings, but these yearnings alone, without the guidance of the requisite knowledge, are productive of no practical results; they are gropings in the dark, with bumped heads as the end of the song. And that is just what happened to the schemes of the Platos, the Mores, the Harringtons—the Utopians, in short. Not until the race has attained the present point of mechanical perfection, can it have that knowledge that enables it to guide the promptings of the heart. With the Utopians the heart was there, but the requisite race knowledge was necessarily absent. The Socialist is the complete man: with him the heart does not overleap the intellect, nor does the intellect—thanks to the modern mechanism of production known to him—lag behind the heart.

B. J.—And if Jesus lived to-day, what do you think; would he not be a Socialist?

U. S.—Every decent man who is abreast of his times must be a Socialist. He who is none to-day, is either a moral abortion, or is behind his times in social knowledge.

Throw off the Workman's Burden!

[Written for THE PEOPLE by Arthur Keep, New York, with Apology to Mr. Kipling.]

Throw off the workman's burden—
O men of every breed—
Go tell your sons of freedom
To serve your own dire need:
Wait not in heavy harness,
On bourgeois folk agape
Your longtime upper peoples
Half devil and half ape.

* * *

Throw off the workman's burden—
In patience don't abide;
The spread of cant and error
And brutal show of pride;
By open speech and simple,
One hundred times made plain,
Make clear this murderous system
Which works another's gain.

* * *

Throw off the workman's burden—
The savage wars of peace—
Fill full your mouth of famine,
And know your sickness cease;
Bring our goal one day nearer
(The end we all have sought)
Watch crime and bourgeois folly
Come on that day to naught.

* * *

Throw off the workman's burden—
The iron rules of kings,
The toil of serf and sweeper—
The tale of monstrous things.
All ports ye then shall enter,
All roads ye then shall tread,
In the glory of the living,
Long hoped for by your dead.

* * *

Throw off the workman's burden—
And reap then your reward—
The joy of men made better,
The love of those ye guard—
The cry of those ye forward
(Ah quickly!) toward the light:—
"We free ourselves from bondage—
Our long commercial night!"

* * *

Throw off the workman's burden—
Ye will not stoop to less—
Halt not but think of freedom,
Shake off your weariness.
With all your will and power,
Stand forth your share to do,
In helping into being
The time for me and you.

* * *

Throw off the workman's burden!—
Have done with slavery days—
The heartily proffered laurel,
The well earned ungrudged praise;
Come soon, to prove your manhood
Through all the joyous years,
Of peace, of rest, of piety,
With no sign of crime or tears.

LECTURES.

A. S. Brown, "Labor Movement in America," March 12, 8 p. m., at 118 East 110th street, New York.

J. Allman, "Philosophy of Warfare," March 14, 8 p. m., 65 Columbia street, New York.

Mary E. McPherson, of Yonkers, "Are We Ready for Socialism?", March 12, 8 p. m., at 149th street and Third avenue, 34th and 35th A. D. Headquarters, New York.

J. Allman, "Karl Marx on International Political Action," March 10, 8 p. m., at 98 Avenue C, New York.

H. Simpson, "Surplus Value," March 13, 8 p. m., at 98 Avenue C, New York.

B. F. Keinard, "The Class Struggle," a stereoptican illustrated lecture, March 14, 8 p. m., at West Side Union Hotel, 342 West 42nd street, New York.

The same lecture, March 15, 8 p. m., at Hudson Building, Northwest corner 30th street and Eighth avenue; and March 17, at West Side Educational Club Rooms, 240 West 53rd street, New York.

H. Wesling, "Charity," March 12, 8 p. m., at 528 East 11th street, New York.

BOSTON.—Martha M. Avery, "Socialism a Science," March 12, 4 p. m., at Public Forum, Berkerly, corner Appleton street.

YONKERS.—Lucien Sanial, "Territorial Expansion and How it Will Affect the Working Class of the United States," March 17, 8 p. m., at Devlit's Hall, 9 Warburton avenue. Admission 10 cents.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

BALTIMORE'S MUNICIPAL FIGHT.

With the founders of this Republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development, we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the whole people in common.

MUNICIPAL DEMANDS.

The Socialist Labor party of Baltimore, in convention assembled, herewith renews its declaration of unswerving allegiance to the Socialist Labor party of the United States, and its unfaltering adherence to the national platform adopted in New York in 1896. We reassert our determined opposition to the political parties of the capitalist class, and call upon all workingmen to unite under our banner, and throw off the enslaving yoke of capitalism forever by aiding in the establishment of the Socialist Republic—the Co-operative Commonwealth.

As a means to that end, and with the purpose in view of immediate alleviation of the misery of the working class, we declare the following to be our platform:

1. We denounce as inimical to the political freedom guaranteed by the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States the provision in the so-called new Charter of the City of Baltimore making the ownership of real estate a necessary qualification for a citizen elected as a member of the City Council; the same being the ordinance-making-power of the city, such a qualification deprives the propertyless of the right of direct participation in the framing of laws for their own protection; vests in the minority the governing power of the majority; places upon the working class (the propertyless) the responsibility of maintaining a government with which they have nothing in common, and makes of their franchise of freedom, their alleged sovereign power, a sneering mockery, to be used by them only in the choice of a coterie of political blacklegs whose sole object is the blinding and confusing of the working class that they may be the more readily fleeced of the wealth they produce. We further declare this provision to be the initiative step to the complete disfranchisement of the working class. Therefore, the Socialist Labor party of Baltimore warns all workingmen to awaken to their class interest by rending asunder the political shackles of capitalism, and raising aloft the standard-bearers of their own class—the nominees of the Socialist Labor party.

2. The continued encroachments of the capitalist class upon the rights of the people demand attention at this time; when the mis-representatives of the people are so prone to yield up valuable franchises for the "public good!" We therefore demand absolute self-government; abolition of the veto power of the Mayor; all measures to be submitted to the people for adoption or rejection; the people to have the right to initiate legislation by petition.

3. The appalling decrease in the wages of the working class, the absolute disregard of the constantly swelling army of unemployed workingmen, and the misery these conditions must entail, is but the reflex of the tyranny of the capitalist class, and the unceasing agitation of that class for a permanent contract system of public work merits our sincerest condemnation. We therefore demand the entire abolition of contract labor in public works; all city work to be done directly by the municipality without the intervention of middlemen or contractors. Where materials are needed which the municipality cannot supply, the same shall be purchased from firms employing none but union labor.

4. The condition of the people was brought vividly to the attention of the public authorities during the blizzard of the past winter, when one thousand unemployed workingmen were found in two hours' time willing to sell their flesh, blood and bones, willing to brave the terrible elements of snow, ice, hail and rain, poorly clad and almost barefooted, for the miserly pittance of $1.25 a day. The ribald howling of the press of the capitalist class that the people are steeped in prosperity could find no more fitting refutation than this living logic of misery! The capitalist class offers to these men institutions where the sawing of two dollars' worth of wood is demanded in exchange for a bowl of liquid erroneously called soup, and a shake-down on a floor benevolently termed a bed. The Socialists demand, for the peace of the community and the destruction of these forerunners of a bloodly revolution, the permanent employment of the unemployed by the municipality establishing much-needed and desirable public works, believing that the safety and peace of a community can be best subserved by the prosperity of all the people than by a condition of unrest and misery of the most of the people and the luxurious opulence and profligate waste of the few, regardless of the tax rate.

5. In conformity with the abolition of contract work, and to more completely wrest from the capitalist class the power to maintain itself through the public treasury, we demand the establishment of a municipal printing plant, wherein shall be done all the printing of the municipality, and all such shall bear the union label of the printing crafts of the city. The day's labor shall consist of seven hours; overtime shall be abolished; the wages fixed by the printing crafts unions shall be paid in every department.

6. We view with alarm the parading of the poverty of some of the people and the dispensing of alleged charity by the capitalist class through the agencies of hypocritical benevolent associations for the "improvement" (degradation) of the poor, on the one hand, and the ruthless robbery of the people by the same class in the necessities of life, on the other. We therefore demand the establishment of a municipal coal and wood yard, and an ice house and plant, these commodities to be furnished the people at cost. We demand, further, the establishment of a city pharmacy and medical department. Where the poor of the city will not be made the subjects of "scientific research" by students of the medical profession; where pure medicines and competent medical attendance may be had at minimum cost, or free when necessary.

7. We hold the right of freedom of speech is inviolate. Therefore, the right of agitation and education of the people to a knowledge of their rights should not be abridged. Since the propertyless have no other meeting place to discuss public questions than the street corners, and since the regulations of the city prevent congestion at these places, thereby depriving those who have not the means to secure a hall of the right to publicly agitate public questions, we demand the use of public halls and public parks, for the holding of public meetings, without expense to the participants.

8. As bodily cleanliness is necessary to physical health, and as study of wholesome economic literature is necessary to mental and moral health, we demand the establishment of free public baths in sufficient number to accommodate the demand, and the establishment of free reading rooms wherein shall be kept on file wholesome literature of all descriptions, and the works of Karl Marx and all Socialist Labor party publications, which shall be provided by the Socialist Labor party of the United States.

9. To eliminate the planless method now in vogue of the congregating at spots in the city of the unemployed, and the employment of men on the street corners, we demand the establishment of a free employment bureau, to be conducted at the expense of the city, and the registration of the unemployed, reports of the same to be publicly made monthly, and the records to be preserved in the archives of the municipality.

10. The recent agitation for the placing of vestibules on street cars to protect exposed employés in the service of the street railway corporations from the fierce onslaught of the elements demonstrated how completely are these workingmen the slaves of the corporate power. We need not recall the opposition of the owners of these railways to the proposition to establish this necessary protection to the overworked and underpaid employés; we need not dwell upon the echoed opposition of the employés themselves. It is unnecessary to repeat the statement of a Corporation Superintendent "that the health of our employés is as zealously guarded as would be that of a valued draft horse!" All this is fresh in the public mind. The street car employés of Baltimore are freemen; they compose a part of the sovereign people! Their wrongs are again but the reflex of the tyranny of the capitalist class. Since these cannot be properly adjusted so long as the agents of the capitalist class control the means of freedom, we demand the acquisition by the municipality of all public utilities, including street car systems, lighting facilities, telephone lines and their appurtenances, and all other corporate possessions of a public nature, in which the capitalist class derives its power to tyrannize and brow-beat workingmen through the franchises of the people, to be operated co-operatively by the employés under the control of the municipality.

11. Ignorance and illiteracy is the foe of freedom. Where one part of the people is equipped with knowledge and an understanding of the power knowledge imparts, and another part of the people is devoid of knowledge and consequently of the power knowledge gives, it follows that education is essential to liberty. With knowledge and power invested in a part of the people, and ignorance in the other part, tyranny is king and serfdom is given birth. Therefore, we view the future state of the working class with grim forebodings if this condition is permitted to continue! We see daily the army of prematurely matured children wending their weary way to the factory, the workshop and the store. We see their pinched faces passing into the portals of hell with the wolfish boss standing by forcing them to their utmost. And this is civilization! This the march of progress! With horror we contemplate these things, and cannot suffer them in silence to go on. Knowing that education is free only as it is accessible, we demand the compulsory attendance at school of all children under the age of sixteen years, the means of education to be free to all, assistance in the way of meals and clothing to be given by the municipality where necessary.

12. The tenement house is the cankerous palace of disease. Its existence in a community is a moral blotch. The capitalist class builds jails for criminals and preaches much of the increase of crime. Yet the tenement house is a good investment! Knowing that the tenement house is a primary source of vice, and that the more tenements there are, the more desirable will the jails become, we demand the entire destruction of these fest-beds of filth, and the erection by the municipality of healthful, modern houses, to be rented at cost, one family to one house, and that a civilized system of sanitary inspection be carried on.

13. The growing practice of heads of municipal departments absenting themselves from their duties, and at the same time drawing pay from the city for time which they devote to other pursuits, meets with our emphatic condemnation. We demand, therefore, that all city employés shall give their entire labor time to the business of the city, and no employé shall receive less than two dollars per day for seven hours' labor. To avoid increasing the tax burdens to the citizens of the city in the fulfillment of this requirement, the wages of all employés receiving $1,200 a year or more, including the Mayor, shall be reduced pro rata, and a corresponding reduction shall be made in the salaries paid to Councilmen. All city employés shall elect their own superior officers, when they are not elected by the people, and no employé shall be discharged for political or religious belief. Cause of removal shall in all cases be given in writing, and, if insufficient, the courts of the city shall have the power, after

(Continued on page 4.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

A Boston Plan for "The Daily People".

To THE PEOPLE.—In a cigar shop in this city, where a few comrades are working, an idea sprang up of a weekly penny collection toward the fund of the daily PEOPLE.

The five dollars which I send now is the result of it for the past few weeks, and, as appointed collector of that shop for that purpose, I shall with pleasure do my duty in the future.

SAMUEL T. FREEDMAN.

Boston, Feb. 23.

"Turning the Crank" in Souderton, Pa.

To THE PEOPLE.—Souderton Section, S. L. P., had a municipal ticket for the election of the Borough of Suderton, Pa. In November, before we started our Section, we had 7 votes; this election, which was, hotter than the other, we had 29 straight votes—our highest vote ran up to 52; only one of our members can vote in the Borough, the others are of adjoining townships. The Reps and Dems worked like madmen; they strolled the streets and scoured the houses for votes, so that we would not elect our men, which they were afraid of. We have a vote of 268 in our Borough and 177 were polled, so you see a stay-at-home of 91 who neither favor the Dems and Reps, because this town is red hot Republican. Having about 170 votes they only polled 108 this time with the cut tickets, while they had only 71 straight and the Dems 32 straight, all the rest were cut and favorable to our Council candidate; the 91 were nearly all working people who stayed at home and were afraid to vote our ticket lest they should be discharged or debarred from work, so you can see it coming and we only need to wait for the clouds to roll by. We were the first in the County of Montgomery to have an S. L. P. municipal ticket, and everybody was and is still watching us; we will urge a county ticket in the fall and intend to send out propaganda in car lots. After the election I said to the Rep and Dem committeemen: "It is coming"; they asked what was coming. "The S. L. P. wave." "We cannot see it," they replied. "I know, therefore you will perish before it," I said. They called me a crank; I said: "Thank you, sir, YOU ARE TURNING IT."

U. H. STOVER.

Souderton, Pa., March 3.

A Pillar of the Social Debauchery.

To THE PEOPLE.—"The armory builder with his wooden block," as Longfellow puts it, was in Winchester the other evening, and in order that the comrades, who know him only from report, may judge the man, and judge him from his own words and actions, I shall do him the honor of writing him up for THE PEOPLE.

In the first place, Carey consists of only two things, mouth and love for Carey. He admits, and constantly says that he considers himself the ablest man in the movement. The one drawback which he suffers under is that his brain is so large, and of such a fine nature, that his body cannot feed it. This is also one of his open confessions. He is a slight man, but he is by no means a weak one, yet he draws attention to his apparent physical shortcomings, and having aroused the sympathies of the most sympathetic of all people—the working class—he proceeds to feed their feeling, and never gives them an idea to think over.

It was the understanding at Winchester that we were to listen to an explanation of the difference between the Debsites and the Socialists, and that after Carey had spoken, the floor was to be given to us. We have tried to catch the elusive James for some time, and it almost seemed as though he had turned and was about to attack us. Did he follow out the program? Not a bit of it. He arose and said that he was unwell, and he would only speak a short time, then when he had finished, if there was a train in sight—HE WOULD CATCH IT. Mr. Go the 69th. His short talk was a concentrated extract of mush, but when he finished, the chair (who, let me say was not a Socialist, and did not claim to be, yet acted with perfect fairness) asked Carey a simple question, was answered, and the meeting was suddenly adjourned. Comrade Malloney got up, and the Debsites hissed. "Mr. Chairman," Malloney said, "there is a misunderstanding here; we were led to belive that to-night Mr. Carey was to do a little explaining, and we came here to find out who is who, and which is which; yet when he has said nothing on the subject for which he was billed, and the only thing that brought us here, we find that he must catch a train; I and others want to ask some questions and we would like permission from the chair to do so." The chairman said he had no objections, if the questions were on the subject of the address given.

I then rose and said the speaker had begged the possibility of many questions by saying he would not define terms, but as he had used some economic terms, and used them wrongly, I would like to have him define capital. James did not rise, so after a moment the question was barred by the chair. I wished to make clear this point: Carey said that "in order to obtain possession of land and the instruments of production and distribution we must first have capital"; also, "capital is all commodities"; also in Woburn he said "capital is surplus value"; "in order that the working class may free itself the workers must first obtain control of capital." Those expressions seem to indicate that James is at sea, and simply errs in the use of terms. I hold that there underlies each expression, an error which is of the most pernicious character. The farmers' plank, the right of taking what belongs to the people—if they pay for it—and other little facts connected with the whole Debs party here, find a concrete expression. Carey only voiced the middle class nature of the movement, showed that it mistakes entirely the stand taken by Socialists.

Comrade Corcoran then said: "The speaker talks about a spirit of enquiry; prompted by that spirit, I wish to know why his party has one platform here in the East, and a different one in the West; why it should find it necessary for its own ends to assume a proletarian face, when it plainly manifests a middle class heart; the speaker talks about equality of opportunity, grant us that equality, and we can prove to these people that the difference between us is not one of tactics but one of honesty, one of right and wrong." The oracle rose not from his tripod, but trembled and turned pale. The tide of sympathy in the audience was turning against him. Mr. Roach then said he had been touched by the story of how Carey's brothers were out on strike in Haverhill, and he would ask him if he voted $15,000 for an Armory in order to help them win the strike. Comrade Buker asked if the S. D. P. would buy the plants, railroads, etc. Neither question was replied to, so Comrade Malloney said: "THIS MATTER THAT WE ARE GOING OVER TO-NIGHT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE WORKING CLASS. IT IS A QUESTION OF WHETHER A PARTY CAN CLAIM THEIR VOTES AND THEIR CONFIDENCE, WHEN THAT PARTY HAS ITS CAMPAIGN EXPENSES PAID BY THE RUMSELLERS OF HAVERHILL. Carey was on his feet as though shot, evidently expecting Comrade Malloney would back away from him. BUT WHEN HE SAW THE COMRADE WAS READY AND EAGER AND EAGER FOR THE CONFLICT, HE SANK INTO HIS CHAIR, LIMP AS A DISH-RAG. THIS touches home on an important matter. The Haverhill Social Democrats themselves have said that the liquor dealers paid for their campaign, if not, where did the money come from?

I then rose to resent the insult which had been offered to the working class by Carey when he came before a bourgeois audience in Woburn. He groveled before those people, repudiated the class struggle, tried to impress upon his listeners the idea that the workingmen were only trying to get a little, that Socialism was not revolutionary, and that it was such people as those present who could do most to bring about the happy time. He did tell a few mawkish stories calculated to bring tears to the eyes of the most benighted, and he told in heart-rendering tones how the poor wage slaves toiled and moiled and delved, but he did not bother about telling how the poor wage slave could put an end to this state of affairs. They gave me only a few minutes, and as I said that Carey was on trial there, a minister in the audience got up and said that Carey was not on trial, but was the guest of the Y. M. C. A. of Winchester, and that he would be protected from the attacks of those present. This was no time to quarrel, we were assembled to listen to an address on a scheme whereby the working class might be bettered. I obtained permission to explain our stand, and said that every man who spoke for our class was on trial, and that it was the duty of the workers to see that the truth was told. Then I went on to explain that Carey by his words and by his conduct had proved himself a traitor, and that on every occasion we would tell the workers what manner of man was bidding for their tears. The minister jumped up and moved the adjournment of the meeting, much to Carey's relief. Very few men of his stamp could sit by and hear the truth told about them as it had been there. After the meeting we gave out PEOPLES and platforms. The audience, which had at first been hostile, now admitted that either Carey was a self-denying hero, or else a coward.

It is a matter for serious thought, and also for some satisfaction that the reactionists are of the S. D. P. kind. All we have to do is drive them into a corner, and then kick them, as we did Carey. What are we to think of a man who is a disbeliever in churches, and yet when he finds himself in a church speaking to an audience of church-goers, will tell that audience that they are the best people in the world, will whine about Christ crucified, when he does not believe in Christ at all, who will try to make his audience believe that he is another Christ, and then will go elsewhere and laugh at the idea? Watch him. This question I bring up is not one of religion. It is one of the character of the man. We have nothing to do, and can have nothing to do with his religion, yet when he bids in the name of Socialism for the applause of a crowd, by using things in which he does not believe, we have good ground on which to base a disbelief of all his words. When Chase was in Winchester I asked him what he thought of a man who followed another into the Populist party; out of the Populist party; into the S. L. P.; out of the S. L. P., into the S. D.; out of the S. D., into the S. D. P., and he promptly denied that he and Carey had been up to that game of tag. No one accused him, but he and James fit the case. Mr. Claffin goes so far as to deny that Socialism has anything to do with the working class, but should keep itself eminently respectable. This is in a recent number of their official journal, and is in a discussion of a change of party name. Mr. Claffin believes that Labor would not be a fit word to their name. Mrs. Haile goes to the other extreme and would exclude all but manual workers. "I am a wur-rking woman," she says, "I wur-rk with my hands, and therefore, etc." What would she do were she an armless wonder such as we see in museums, and was forced to work with her feet?

We had no right to claim Carey was on trial? Yes, but we had, and every man among us speaking in the name of Labor, pleading for the working class is on trial, and that class must have no hesitation in condemning or approving what is wrong and what is right. We have no place for honest ignorance, whether it is on the part of Debs or on the part of our spiney-backed erstwhile comrade, Karl Pancake. When Debs is guilty of such a statement as "With machinery capital is now able to produce four times more than can be consumed. Capital must therefore close down its machines part of the time—" he sounds a note of danger to all Socialists. What is he talking about? Does he know, does anyone know? Our kettle-rendered friend Squire Putney may, or this might be the one bit of economics the editor of the "S. D. Herald" understands, but it is beyond the comprehension of an intelligent man. It will doubtlessly be necessary for the Haverhill Socialists to withdraw from the S. D. P. as there is no money which they do not need themselves. The cry that has been going up from the "Herald" shows that dues come in slowly, and even the "staunch comrades in St. Louis" have a little knife up their sleeves in the matter of dues. Carey's party does not spread beyond the confines of his own town, and when it comes to a question of paying out good money (which should be free silver) they find any party too narrow. Furthermore, Gordon needs all the money on hand for his own purposes, and as he manipulated Carey out of the S. L. P. he will manipulate him and the ones whom Carey manipulates, while there is a cent in it. This is the whole secret of the attempt being made to "throw down Debs," and it will succeed. They had to buy Kelliher when he became too defunct to handle, and now the Debs following is found "narrow." Gordon is a clever underhand worker, and Carey isn't; Carey is a clever gabbler, and Gordon isn't, so Gordon uses Carey for his own ends, and the eloquent, the tearful, the plaintive James finds himself under the painful necessity of supplanting the great Debs.

Each year we spend several thousand dollars to fight a moth, real or imaginary I do not know, but the gypsy moth is always up for discussion—and an increas appropriation. Carey says this moth is a dream, and he forthwith votes $15,000 to out an end to the dream. Now that was the people's money which he voted to throw away, but it shows that James is building up a personal dream of the nightmare variety, in his record as a law-maker, which will require many appropriations to down. But then, what t'ell, Gordon can teach him the trick of appropriating.

FRANK MacDONALD.

Stoneham, Mass., March 5.

A Workingwoman Looking for Work.

To THE PEOPLE.—An acquaintance of mine, while looking for work, finds out that there are two distinct classes: the oppressors and the oppressed, to which latter class she is beginning to feel more every day she belongs. She trusted to some charitable ladies to find work for her, and got left. Though repeatedly warned against them by her Socialist friends, she still had hope of getting some work from them. They promised and disappointed her time after time. One of the "ladies" recommended her to the Silby Hospital (she being a nurse by profession and willing to take work of any kind to earn a livelihood.) They sent her to a few cases they did not care to send their nurses to. One being scarlet fever. The head nurse told her she could have that as she did not want to send one of her nurses for fear it might get in the hospital. "How about me?" the woman asked. "Oh well," she could only say, meaning, I suppose, that it would make no difference were she to die with it, there would only be one woman working animal out of the way.

Finally she was told by her that she would give her no work and that she couldn't get none while living in a Socialist family, and it would be best to get away. So the other ladies said also and even told her where she could get a room, but failed to tell her the most important of all, how to pay for it. They told her what terrible people the Socialists are and even how terrible they look. Really, their ignorance is laughable. When they found she had no idea of trying to leave a family she had been well treated in, not allowed to suffer when her funds were low if not quite gone, one of them offered to get a ticket for her to go home to her parents to be taken care of. The ticket to be paid by the Associated Charities. She answered that she did not want charity, but work, a chance to work and earn a living by work for herself. And she also said: "I wish the time was near that everyone willing to work could get work, and those living idle on the work of others would have to work for themselves, as it will be when the Socialists get in possession of the means of production and distribution." They were horrified at her and to wind up their business with her and get rid as quickly as possible of anyone so "terrible" she was presented with a businessman's card and told to call and see about the place. She went and found it filled two days before.

So much for her experience with such friends, of which there are so many. She plainly sees it all now and has let them entirely alone and is looking for work on her own hook with a much better, although poor, chance of getting it than with a cloud of religious hypocrisy overshadowing her.

A. J.

Washington, D. C., March 3.

From Catskill, N. Y.

To THE PEOPLE.—After five years of missionary work in this classical old Dutch village, Socialism has actually taken root and a few who have labored hard are much pleased.

A few days since an application containing the names of twelve good and true citizens and Socialists was forwarded to headquarters, asking permission to form a new Section here, which it is hoped will be granted.

On the 27th of last month, Comrade Arthur Keep gave a very interesting and instructive address to an interested audience of sixty or more, and I am convinced that much good was done. All, so far as I can learn, were exceedingly well pleased and demand that Comrade Keep shall visit them again.

Socialism in Catskill has been of slow growth; which I believe is all the better for the cause, but I am confident that from this time on it will be much more rapid and withall healthy and permanent.

A municipal election will be held here the last of the month, when it is expected we will have an excellent ticket in the field.

GEO. H. WARNE.

Catskill, N. Y., March 1.

Sample Slave Pens in New York.

To THE PEOPLE.—I would like to call your attention to the following facts that occurred during the time I was employed in the Liberty Silk Works of this city.

First, I have seen the superintendent walking through the weaving room on Saturday after the looms had been cleaned and the weavers were all dressed to go home, he noticed a little dust in one girl's loom and he asked her, if she had cleaned her loom; she answered yes; then he wiped the dust with her hand off the loom and wiped it on her shirtwaist, and asked her then if her shirtwaist was clean; she answered the question by striking him with a shuttle.

On an other occasion, I saw three girls at the sink taken drinking water; one held a cup of water in her hand when the superintendent came along, he took the cup away from the girl, threw the water over her, and then smashed the cup on the floor.

On an other occasion I witnessed at noon-time several girls sitting on nail kegs eating their dinner; be it understood there are no seats allowed in this factory; they must sit on the floor like Japanese; the superintendent came along and took the kegs away; he would not allow the girls to sit on them.

These are only a few of the daily occurrences that happen in the Liberty Silk Works—of the land that would free and civilize the heathens.

A NEW YORK WEAVER.

New York, March 4.

An Internal Grievance Complained of.

To THE PEOPLE.—In the past year we have had sent us "lottery tickets" from divers and sundry places, every one of them being to promote some good and noble purpose. In each case the Section members have responded—bought up the tickets at "only" 10 cents each, and in this way have sent away several big hardware dollars that have been badly needed in the State for propaganda. In some cases tickets have been sold to members whom we would not have the gall to ask for 10 cents for a stamp to put on their red card. It is a little thing and I hate to even mention it, but it has become a burden on the members, and as I am the recipient of all these tickets and so far never having heard from the money I have sent away, at least in more than two cases, I feel as if it MIGHT lead some of the members to reproach me.

I have now a few tickets left from what I have no doubt is a most worthy case for relief and would gladly help the comrade ten times, yes a hundred times more than the trifling amount we are asked for, yet can't spare him the 10 cents even without burdening myself. We have cases right here where members—good members—are living on tea and bread alone. Many of them out of work and to whom two, 15 cent and up (?) meals would be joy supreme, if they could get and hold it, a day.

The damnable system is to blame for it all, of course; but in the mean time what in L are we to do about it? I just got another lot of ten to help establish a "headquarters," no matter where, and I know in the very nature of things they need the headquarters badly and should have it—I know it because we have not even a "tail-quarters" here and would rejoice with exceeding great joy if we could get 4 dozen wood bottom chairs to put into a room where we meet twice a week for a $4 per month rental.

Now it is not the poor devils of members who are kicking—not a blessed one of them has ever squealed on it so far; but I feel every time I say "dime"—to them as if I was robbing "Peter to pay Paul." Just as long as the tickets come, I suppose I will go ahead and sell them, but I wish very much that the comrades would bear in mind that we all have our burdens, and would further recollect that old motto that the "Gods help those who help themselves."

At least let them remember this, that the "wave of prosperity" washed hundreds of poor fellows to the Pacific coast and a lot of them have not been able to buy soap to wash with since.

It ain't because we are mean, but we are poor, that causes the kick. But if the worst comes to the worst, at least let them put in return postage.

T. J. DEAN.

Seattle, Wash., March 5.

As to Comrade Keep's Reminiscenses.

To THE PEOPLE.—As the movement in which we are engaged is international in its scope, we Socialists here in the United States are naturally interested in the growth of the cause all over the world, and when we deal with its progress in other lands, it is, I think, very important to have as accurate information as possible. In THE PEOPLE of Feb. 12, there appears an article entitled "English Reminiscences," by Arthur Keep, a comrade who is only known to me as a frequent contributor to your columns. The comrade gives a lively sketch of the movement in England which in the main is absolutely correct. The weakness, puerility, and obscurity of a great many of the publications known in that country as "Socialist," is only too apparent, and the recognition of the class struggle, as a working basis, seems to be utterly ignored by the freaks, masquerading as Socialists, whose name is Legion.

However, there is one misconception running through Comrade Keep's article, a misconception for which he is only in part responsible. His informant, Mr. Thorne, is by no means a reliable authority as regards the British proletariat. The statement that there are not over two million voters in England is simply ridiculous, but it is probably on a par with the intelligence of the average "fraternal" delegate, who is only interested in that section of the proletariat from whom "dues" may be extracted. The number of voters upon the register, last year, in England and Wales, was 4,854,400, and 289,822 respectively, making a total of 5,144,222, which, I submit, puts an altogether different complexion on the matter. When the political apathy of a great number of the British working class is recognized, and also the fact that enrollment on the register as a voter is largely left to the individual himself, it is not too much to say that the above figures fall considerably below the number entitled to vote. Having lived many years in England as an unskilled laborer, I have met these men in large numbers; men who neither know or care whether they have a vote or not, and to whom voting is a matter of complete indifference. Having never voted, they generally assume that they have no vote, but would not take the slightest trouble to inquire; and I strongly suspect that the pugnacious costermonger mentioned in the article, might not unlikely belong to that category. A movement for universal suffrage would be impossible while the working class remain without a definite object. The Belgian proletariat did not strike merely for the privilege of voting promiscuously, but with the well defined object of raising their class to power. Had there been no class-consciousness, there would have been no strike. As the British worker does not yet recognize his distinct class interests, universal suffrage would not be of the slightest importance to the Socialist movement in England, it would merely add a few more voting cattle to the Liberal or Tory parties, and Hyndman's answer to the writer shows merely that he (Hyndman) recognized the situation.

While the Socialist movement in England remains in its present chaotic condition, any impulse towards further extension of the franchise must come from either of the two great capitalist parties, for their own purposes, just as such extensions have been their work in the past. There is no danger at present in sight, while the workers remain as they are. As the writer says "The proletariat of England cannot fathom the Socialist movement, because the movement there don't understand itself." Exactly so. But the writers' conclusion from this is vitiated by the misconception I have mentioned. There is in England an enfranchised proletariat sufficiently numerous at present to constitute an irresistible Socialist party, but through the vagaries and freaks of those who pretend to represent the movement, it is left blindly wallowing in the mire of capitalist politics. British Socialism must clarify itself by the same process that we have gone through here. It must sternly lop off the schemers, sentimentalists, reformers, and freaks who paralize the movement they profess to further. It must place itself on a clear, class-conscious basis, and make straight appeal to the proletariat for the overthrow of the capitalist system, and I believe with the writer, that many signs show that this position is being gradually approached. But it certainly seems to me that the "leaders" of the movement called "Socialist" in England must shoulder more of the responsibility for the present condition of the party than Comrade Keep is inclined to load them with. At any rate, the excuse of a disenfranchised proletariat will not hold water for a moment. The figures quoted are from "Whitaker's Almanac," a publication remarkable for its accuracy.

J. W.

Chicago, Feb. 21.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

LETTER BOX.

Off-hand Answers to Correspondents.

[No questions will be considered that come in anonymous letters. All letters must carry a bona fide signature and address.]

PROLETARIAT, ST. LOUIS, MO.—Marx does not use equations; he only uses the signs of equations. Mathematical equations are not applicable to political economy. The worst that can happen to "a man who has no conception or does not know the nature of an equation," at sight of Marx' forms of the equation is that he is startled. Only in that way would he be incapacited from reading and understanding "Capital."

C. S., LACONIA PARK, N. Y.—The term "labor saving" machinery is better than "labor displacing." The machine DOES save labor now, only it does so now to the exclusive benefit of the capitalist class and to the injury of the working class; under Socialism, improved machinery would save labor likewise but to the benefit of the people. The term "labor displacing" means throwing labor out upon the street. That feature of machinery is transitory; it can not survive the capitalist system; consequently is implied in the term "labor saving."

To discuss whether "all men are born equal" or not is to open the door to logomachy, a disputation of words. It all depends upon what one understands by the term. The general and only sensible meaning in which the term is used is that all human beings are entitled to equality of opportunities. This general meaning of the term will stand the test of all serious objection; and in that sense it is correct.

H. L. R., TOLEDO, O.—Your objection to our criticism of your precious Mayor Jones is very suspicious, considering the care with which you avoid mentioning his business, his means of livelihood.

"VICTIM," PROVIDENCE, R. I.—To answer your question—"How do the business failures under the Republican Administration compare with those under the Democratic Administration?"—would involve a laborious examination of statistics for which this office has not a sufficient personel.

M. S. S., YONKERS, N. Y.—Under Socialism there will not be more there will be fewer government offices. In fact there will be none.

Government, as you use the term, is an organism incompatible with the Socialist Republic. The existing government in no manner aids production; it is simply a means to oppress the working class and for warring capitalists to swindle one another. Such a government is something separate and apart from the people, despite the drapery used to conceal the fact; consequently its "offices" are sources of suffering for the people.

Under Socialism, the necessary centra directing authority is an aid to production the incumbents are part and parcel of the people; and seeing that the people would be working co-operatively with a co-operatively owned machinery of production and consequently, would be all public employés or office-holders, there can be no sharp line between them and the central directing authority. The "offices" melt away in a nation of co-operative workers.

As to the idea of "corruption," the above sufficiently disposes of it. This may be added: The well-spring of corruption is want and the fear of want. Neither is possible in the Socialist Republic.

J. O., OZONE PARK, N. Y.—A case, like the one you are now confronted with, confronted a comrade in this city quite recently. Being summoned to do special jury duty and required to answer, among other questions, whether he would render a verdict according to the law, he answered: "It is impossible for me to answer this question conscientiously; no one can now-a-days tell what some of the most important laws are; the Judges are interpreting each as he chooses and the interpretentions are of such a nature that what one would think is law is no law at all. For instance, we have a set of laws on the statute books, the Factory laws; they provide for guards and other protections; an employer neglected this, caused thereby the loss of the whole arm of one of his factory girls; she brought suit for damages and the Court threw her case out saying, it was her own look out. The version of the law by that Court is "law" I suppose, at the same time the statutes are law too, and these two ran foul of each other. I refuse to answer this question. I don't, and no one else knows what the 'law' is." The Commissioners of Jurors looked puzzled, but he got off. You try the same thing.

H. S. A., LINCOLN, NEB.—We have no knowledge of the antecedents of W. Aleyne, Ireland, the author of the "Labor Problem in the Tropics," published in the February number of the "Popular Science Monthly." Possibly someone reading this, and knowing may inform.

S. M. W., ATLANTA, GA.—The postal laws are strict against using the mails to promote lotteries, etc. Papers containing announcements of such subjects run a risk of being refused passage through the mails. Nothing would suit our Authony-Comstockized P. O. better than a chance to refuse to handle us. THE PEOPLE will take no chances, it has always refused publication of such announcements, and has so stated repeatedly.

D. C. W., QUAKERTOWN, PA.—Bonding is certainly not the Socialist system of raising revenue. The raising of taxes is by far the better way; and if properly carried out, this way can be a valuable aid in the expropriating of the expropriators. Could you send us a clipping of the publication in which you say you saw the bonding recommended? It has escaped us.

J. W. S., ST. LOUIS, MO.—Keep cool; there is going to be a howl going up from Jericho.

A. J. G., COLUMBUS, O.—Your inquiry merits an open answer, so that others, who might be exercised by the same troubles and misconceptions, may likewise profit. Will publish answer in next issue.

F. L., SAN ANTONIO, TEX.—The promised answers are crowded out of this issue; will push them through the next.

C. L., ALTOONA, PA.—Buckle's History of Civilization; Hallam's Middle Ages. Write also to Labor News Company, 147 East 23rd street.

To the Sections of the S. L. P.

The first of the supplements to the Socialist Almanac—No. 2, Vol. I., "People Library"— is now out and ready for shipment.

It is a handsome, 24-page pamphlet, the contents of which are:

I. Territorial Expansion, by L. Sanial.

II. Growth of Socialism in America (S. L. P. election returns).

Number I. is a subject now foremost in the minds of the people and will receive attention if Sections see to it that the book is brought promihently before the public; number II. is of great interest to all who take an interest in the development of the Socialist movement in this country.

The retail price of this number is only 5 cents, which makes possible a very extensive sale.

Address orders to the N. Y. Labor News Company, 147 East 23rd street, New York, or to the National Secretary:

HENRY KUHN,
184 William street, N. Y.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

OFFICIAL.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary Robert Bandlow, 153 Champlain street, Cleveland, O.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA.—National Executive Committee—Secretary George Moore, 61 Ryde street, Montreal.

NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY—147 East 23rd street, New York City. (The party's literary agency.)

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee.

Meeting of Feb. 28, with John J. Kinneally in the chair.

Financial report for the week ending Feb. 25 showed receipts, $83.50; expenditures, $86.51.

A letter from Seattle, Wash., was read and ordered published.

A letter from Fall River, Mass., is to be answered by the Secretary to the effect that two Sections of the same language should not be formed in one city, and that the system of Branches in one Section is preferable.

Leon Lacoste, of New Orleans, La., was admitted a member at large.

M. Meyer, of Section Detroit, Mich., the former Secretary of the Michigan State Committee, sent a protest against action of Section Detroit, removing him as Secretary without submitting such action to the Sections of the State, as provided by the constitution. Resolved, that Section Detroit be notified that there has been a violation of the constitution and that Sections of the State must be consulted. Meyer also protested against Board of Appeals, tacking to its decision reinstating him, disparaging remarks about his lack of "tact" and "discretion," which, as he claims, are matters not within the province of the Board to pass upon, they having to decide only upon the constitutional question of the case.

Resolutions from Section Kansas City, Mo., for publication in THE PEOPLE and attempting to vindicate the writer of a communication to the "Appeal to Reason" as a "class-conscious Socialist," were received and read: Resolved, that the resolutions be not published and that the Secretary be instructed to write to the Section explaining the reasons.

Section Yonkers, N. Y., reported the expulsion of Frederick S. Dirion, for misappropriation of party funds.

A complaint was received, signed by several members of Boston and vicinity, stating that Section Worcester had refused to entertain charges against one of its members. Resolved, that under the constitution, Sections must entertain, try and dispose of charges brought and that Section Worcester be so notified.

Charters were granted to new Sections in: Woburn, Mass.; West Haven, Conn.; Catskill, N. Y.; Poughkeepsie, N. Y., was reorganized by Comrade Arthur Keep.

* * *

Meeting of March7, with A. S. Brown in the chair. Absent: Sauter and Wherry.

The financial report showed receipts, $124.70; expenditure, including a $200 note on the Almanac, $315.31.

L. A. Malkiel resigned as the treasurer of the Labor Lyceum, and H. Kuhn was elected in his stead.

The sub-committee on the by-laws of Section Los Angeles made its report, recommending some changes, but approving them on the whole. In regard to the objections presented by a number of members of the minority opposed to the reorganization of the Section, the committee reported that the general position taken by the objectors was untenable, the Section having the right to choose its own form of organization, provided such form does not conflict with the national constitution of the party; thus, if a new form of organization has been decided upon by a majority of the Section, the minority must abide. The report was accepted and the Secretary instructed to advise both sides accordingly.

Thomas Higgins, Samuel Hoffman, Earl Colgrove, Charles Herr, Daniel R. Munro, Jacob Gassler, Frank Wilber, all of Oneonta, N. Y., were admitted as members at large. Comrade Keep reported about his agitation in New York State, and Comrade Hickey sent an account of the work in Kentucky and Indiana.

The former Section Williamsburg requested permission to turn its flag over to the 16th Ward, Branch 2; granted.

Section Buffalo reported the reinstatement of the suspended members Helen Savitzka, F. Cienciara, M. Pracik, and W. Czerniak.

A charter was granted to Section Portsmouth, N. H.

L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Secretary.

California.

LOS ANGELES.—Section Los Angeles is making an earnest effort to organize a Socialist brass band, and appeals to all comrades to aid them in their undertaking by forwarding contributions of money, or donations of instruments or books. Donated books are readily sold in Los Angeles when it is known that the proceeds are for the brass band fund.

All contributions or donations should be addressed to comrade James Hurley, Secretary Brass Band, 127 North Main street, Los Angeles, Cal. Acknowledgments will be made for any assistance given by the Socialist Press.

Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS.—The Commune Festival of Section Indianapolis will be held on March 19, in Mozart Hall. The programme is very entertaining and instructive. Members and friends should not fail to attend.

G. REMPLER.

Maryland.

BALTIMORE.—To all Members of Section Baltimore, S. L. P.: Comrades will please take notice that there will be a general meeting of all members of Section Baltimore, at the Labor Lyceum, 515 West Lombard street, Sunday, March 12, at 3 p. m. Only members in good standing will be admitted; those not in good standing can pay dues to the Organizer between 2 and 3 p. m. at the Labor Lyceum. Business of importance will be transacted. Every member should be present. By order of City Central Committee.

R. T. MAYCUMBER, Organizer.

Massachusetts.

The vote on the propositions sent out by the State Central Committee on the request of Sections Medford, Haverhill and Stoneham, for an Organizer:

1. Shall the S. C. C. be empowered to hire a competent person to organize throughout the State Sections of the S. L. P. and Alliances of the S. T. & L. A.?—Yes, 275; No, 104.

2. Shall the S. C. C. be empowered to fix the wages of said Organizer at not more than $12 per week and necessary expenses?—Yes, 244; No, 124.

3. Shall the State form a society which shall pay dues in order to meet the expense incurred by the Organizer, so that the burden may fall only upon those party members who feel able to bear the expense?—Yes, 187; No, 155.

4. Shall the weekly dues be fixed at ten cents, each member to receive a due stamp issued by the S. C. C. as a receipt?—Yes, 169; No, 138.

5. Shall the society be confined to organized towns and the Sections therein be given full control thereof?—Yes, 146; No, 176.

6. Shall the Sections be given complete supervision of the finances of the society?—Yes, 152; No, 167.

7. Will the Sections make nominations for the position of Organizer, so that in the event of the State voting to have one, we may vote upon the candidates without delay?—Yes, 184; No, 94.

The nominations are: Martha Moore Avery, of Boston, Mass.; David Goldstein, Boston, Mass.; T. A. Hickey, New York; B. F. Keinard, New York; James T. Hancock, New Bedford, Mass.; E. C. Peabody, Haverhill, Mass., and J. F. Mallonev, Winchester, Mass.

As soon as the State Committee hears from the nominees they will submit them to the party.

L. D. USHER, Secretary.

MEMBERS EVERYWHERE, ATTENTION!

BOSTON.—At the last meeting of the City Committee, held on March 2, a matter of consequence was brought forward in reference to a man, who has imposed upon their credulity and sympathy with his story of hard luck, and inability to find employment, possessed of the name of AVERY. He used the same to great effect upon those unacquainted with Comrade Martha Moore Avery. In Chelsea he posed as her brother-in-law; through this he succeeded in securing a collection from various members of that Section; amounting to $1.80. Previous to this he managed to possess himself of the addresses of the officers of the City Committee, whom he worked in great style. His description is: Medium height, brown hair and eyes, thick set, age about 40 years, dresses in the style of a person who has roughed it for a long time; he usually assumes the style of putting on glasses before entering into conversation; and in his conversation he says he is or was a member of the S. L. P., and quotes many names of leading members of our party who were active at one time or another, and some who are active to-day. This man Avery, identified himself with the Coxey Army Movement and left Boston with Morrison I. Swift and others for Washington, D. C. On his return, I am led to believe, he joined Section New Haven, but has no card at present. I was instructed to make this announcement concerning this man Avery in the hope that this may warn all comrades who can be reached through THE PEOPLE against this imposter and fraud.

EDW. L. ROSEMANN,
Organizer of Section Boston.

ADAMS.—The following is the S. L. P. municipal ticket:
For Selectman—Charles Stoever.
For Assessor—Theodore Koehler.
For School Committee, Julius Jeske.
For Library Trustees, Emil Kittler, Gust. Barschdorf.

The fight is getting hot, the old parties are getting uneasy. The local press has so far treated us nicely. There are about 1,300 voters here, at the last election 178 of these voted our ticket and we expect to double our vote this time.

BOSTON.—The Karl Marx Class meets every Saturday night, at Unity Hall, 724 Washington street, corner Kneeland street. Our membership is composed of 33 members, some of whom are students of the Institute of Technology and Harvard College. Admission is free to all.

MARTHA MOORE AVERY, Director.

LYNN.—Commencing Sunday, the 12th instant, Section Lynn will hold four agitation meetings each month. The first meeting will be in Lasters' Hall, Andrew street, at 7:30 p. m., Sunday, March 12. Meetings will also be held in different parts of the city. We are also about to start a Karl Marx Class. Anyone wishing to join can hand their names in at any of the meetings.

New York.

BUFFALO.—Section Buffalo, S. L. P., and the "Buffalo Arbeiterzeitung" Publishing Association are arranging this year one joint Commune Festival, to be held Saturday, March 18, at 8 p. m., in the Fillmore Theater Hall, Fillmore avenue, corner Broadway. Besides dancing, singing by four singing societies, recitation, tableau, etc., the programme contains also speeches, in English by Comrade Chas. H. Corregan, of Syracuse; in German by Mr. J. Mosler, editor of the "Buffalo Arbeiterzeitung." Tickets are 10 cents; at the door, 25 cents.

Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA—At the next meeting of Section Philadelphia, which will be held on March 12, nominations will be made for the place of holding the next State Convention. Ways and means will be considered for raising funds for the next campaign. Section Philadelphia must go to work if she wishes to retain her rank in the progress of Socialism with the leading cities throughout the country, and it is urged that every member be present, prepared and willing to battle against capitalist oppression and the corrupt political machine that Philadelphians are compelled to tolerate at present.

General ExecutiveBoard, S. T. & L. A.

The regular meeting of the General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A., was held on Feb. 19, at 184 William street. Members present: Comrades De Leon, Vogt, Luck, Boudin, Murphy and Brower; Murphy in the chair.

Secretary stated that at the meeting of Feb. 2 there was not a quorum of the members present, but those who did attend favored the issuing of charters to: House Carpenters and Joiners, of Detroit, Mich; Lehr Tenders and Shave Boys, of Jeanette, Pa.; Pioneer Mixed Alliance, of Providence, R. I.; and Suspender Operators, of New York City. This action was sustained.

The pressman and feeder from the "Abendblatt" office and a committee of L. A. 81 being present, the matter, which was referred to the Board at the last convention, was taken up. After hearing the evidence on both sides, the Board decided to instruct the Secretary to notify the officers of L. A. 81 to bring the books of the organization to the next meeting of the Board for examination.

Communications: From the Carriage and Wagon Makers' L. A. 97, of Chicago, Ill., complaining against the action of Thos. J. Morgan, who holds the funds of D. A. 11 ($19.00) which was given to Morgan to pay the dues of the various Locals of D. A. 11. Secretary was instructed to write to Thos. J. Morgan to forward to the G. E. B. the funds retained by him from D. A. 11.

One from the Carpenters' and Joiners' L. A. 207, of Detroit, Mich., inquiring whether they could use their own supplies, instead of those of the G. E. B. Secretary was instructed to notify L. A. 207 that according to the constitution they would have to use the supplies furnished by the G. E. B.

Communications were also received from Washington, D. C.; Paterson, N. J.; Polk, Pa.; Boston, Mass.; Roanoke, Va.; Albany, N. Y.; Pittsburg, Pa.; Trenton, N. J.; Louisville, Ky.; Somerville, Mass.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Providence, R. I.; Allegheny, Pa.; Jeanette, Pa., and Pascoag, R. I.

The appeal of L. A. 1028 against their suspension by D. A. 49 was read.

After a lengthy discussion the appeal of L. A. 1028 was sustained and the Secretary instructed to notify D. A. 49 of the same.

Comrade De Leon presented an article written by Comrade Hickey on the miners, and requested the indorsement of the Board for the same. Request was granted. It was also decided to have the same struck off in pamphlet form.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned.

W. L. BROWER, Secretary.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time. It will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

LABOR NEWS COMPANY,

147 East 23rd Street, N. Y.
(Store open from 8 a. m. to 9 p. m.)

H. M. Hyndman:	
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Marx and Engels:	
The Communist Manifesto	.10
Ferdinand Lassalle:	
The Workingman's Programme	.10
What is Capital	.05
George Plechanoff:	
Anarchism and Socialism	.40

BALTIMORE.

(Continued from page 3.)

trial had, of reinstating any employé removed for political or religious reasons.

ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE.

The foregoing platform and declaration is a workingman's platform, drafted by workingmen, and workingmen stand upon it, as the nominees of the Socialist Labor party, who, if elected, have the determination to carry out its principles!

Workingmen Electors! Be not led by false leaders! Be not caught by catch-penny politicians, labor fakirs and skates, who are simply the decoy ducks of the capitalist class to lead you into the meshes of confusion!

Strike at the ballot box with the uplifted arm bearing the hammer! Remember, the Socialist Labor party is the only workingman's political organization in the world! It was the first bona fide workingman's political organization in the field, and it will stand triumphant over the prostrate body of the labor skate at the finish! It never compromises truth to make a friend! It never countenances error through fear of the foe! It strikes where striking counts, where the working class united is the superior of the capitalist class—at the ballot box!

Beware of Mr. Good Man and Mr. Bad Man! You have heard of these before. The skates and fakirs stand uncovered; if you swallow their dose, you must suffer alone. Stand to your guns! A vote for yourselves and your class is not a vote thrown away! A vote for the capitalist class and against your class is worse than thrown away, because you give into the hands of your masters the instruments to oppress you! Study it over!

Give a blow with the Arm and Hammer!!

General Agitation Fund.

Previously acknowledged	$922.44
F. Weidner, Brooklyn, N. Y.	1.40
Kentucky State Committee, per T. A. Hickey	10.00
Section Evansville, Ind., per T. A. Hickey	5.00
Total	$938.84

Press Fund for the Workers' Republic, Dublin, Ireland.

Previously acknowledged	$49.50
John McLean, Independence, Cal., account on list No. 94	1.00
Section Hartford, Conn., on list 18	3.00
Section Utica, N. Y., on list 57	4.50
James Ballard, Eureka, Cal., account on list 94	.50
Total	$58.50

Daily PEOPLE Minor Fund.

Previously acknowledged	$2,320.02
Socialist Liedertafel, N. Y.	3.00
Jas. Hilling, Boston, Mass.	.10
Total	$2,323.12

HENRY KUHN, Secretary.

BOSTON, MASS.

THE PEOPLE is for sale at the following places:
Geo. G. Leavitt, 183 Harrison avenue.
Cohens, 935 Washington street.
W. E. Clutterbuck, 84 West Canton street.

Comrades, make use of this offer:

THE PEOPLE, one year (50 Cents) and

THE SOCIALIST ALMANAC (50 Cents) both together for

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No commission to agents on this offer.

WHO WILL NOT WANT TO GRASP THIS OPPORTUNITY?

THE PEOPLE
184 William st., N. Y. City.

Yorkville Agitation Committee.

Comrade Wright will lecture next Sunday, March 12, 8 p. m., at 414 East 71st street, on the "Rights of Men."

Celebration of March Events
— by the —
Section Hudson County,
S. L. P., New Jersey.

On Saturday, March 18th, at Prasser's Hall, 348 Central av., Jersey City Heights, N. J.

On Sunday, March 19th, at Turn Hall, Cor. Lewis st. and New York ave., Union Hill.

Consisting of Vocal & Instrumental Concert, Athletic Exercises, Recitations and Speeches, in connection with 7 historical tableaux, followed by a grand ball.

Tickets, 15c., for sale at all Labor Lyceums in New York and Hudson County, N. J. 396

Grand Concert and Ball
in celebration of the
28th ANNIVERSARY
—OF—
PARIS COMMUNE
—BY—
SECTION PHILADELPHIA
S. L. P.,

MONDAY EVENING,
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SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY
—OF THE—
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-asserts the inalienable right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty and of happiness.

With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessaries of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming, however, when in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

RESOLUTIONS.

With a view to immediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands:

1. Reduction in the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.

2. The United States to obtain possession of the mines, railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the Federal Government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.

4. The public lands to be declared inalienable. Revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.

5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.

6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.

7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.

8. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be excempt.

9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary.

10. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unabridged right of combination.

11. Prohibition of the employment ofchildren of school age and the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor contract system.

12. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities(county, city, state and nation).

13. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of woman's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.

14. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law.

15. The people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle.

16. Abolition of the veto power of the Executive (national, state and municipal), wherever it exists.

17. Abolition of the United States Senate and all upper legislative chambers.

18. Municipal self-government.

19. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced.

20. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.

21. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.

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184 WILLIAM STR., N. Y.
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.
Entered at New York Post Office as Second-Class Mail Matter.

THE SOCIALIST ALMANAC
AND
TREASURY OF FACTS.
HISTORY SOCIOLOGY
ECONOMICS STATISTICS

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS:

PART I. (Historical)—Socialism in Germany, Italy, Spain, Belgium, America and Poland.

PART II. (Statistical)—Development of Capitalism and Distribution of Wealth in the United States. The Classes and the Class Struggle. The Trusts. Progress of Bankruptcy. Agriculture. Manufactures. Mining. Railroads. Finance. Strikes and Boycotts. Wages and Profits. Election Statistics of the S. L. P., etc., etc.

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Trades' and Societies' Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of $5.00 per annum.

Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meetings.

GENERAL OFFICE, SOCIALIST TRADE AND LABOR ALLIANCE: 23 Duane street, Room 96, New York City. General Secretary: William L. Brower. Financial Secretary Murphy. General Executive Board Meetings: 1st, 3d and 5th Thursday evenings at 8 p. m. Secretary Board of Appeals: Max Keller, 1016 Hope street, Philadelphia, Pa. 353

SECTION ESSEX COUNTY, S. L. P. The County Committee representing the Section meets every Sunday, 10 a. m., in the hall of Essex County Socialist Club, 78 Springfield avenue, Newark, N. J. 136

CARL SAHM CLUB (MUSICIANS' UNION). Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., at 64 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Frei. 36

CIGARMAKERS' PROGRESSIVE INTERNATIONAL UNION No. 90. Office and Employment Bureau: 64 East 4th street. —District 1 (Bohemian), 331 East 71st street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District II (German), at 10 Stanton street, meets every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District III meets at the Clubhouse, 206 East 86th street, every Saturday at 7:30 p. m. —District IV meets at 342 West 42d street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at Faulhaber's Hall, 1551 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m.

EMPIRE CITY LODGE (MACHINISTS), meets every 2d and 4th Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street. Secretary: PETER STAPLE. 272

MUSICAL PROTECTIVE ALLIANCE, NO. 1028, D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., Headquarters 79 East 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 12 o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Pres.; Aug. Lantz, Corr. Sec'y, 79 E. 4th street. 241

SOCIALIST SCIENCE CLUB, S. L. P., 34th 35th A. D. S. E. Cor. of 3d ave. and 149th street. Open every evening. Regular business meeting every Friday.

SKANDINAVIAN SECTION, S. L. P. Meets second and fourth Sunday of every month at 10:30 o'clock a. m., at Teutonia Assembly Rooms, 158-160 3d avenue, New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scand. Socialist Weekly, Scand. Am. Arbetaren.

PROGRESSIVE CLOTHING CUTTERS' & TRIMMERS' UNION, L. A. 68 of S. T. & L. A. Headquarters, 64 East 4th street, Labor Lyceum. Regular meeting every Thursday evening at 8 p. m. 303

THE SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF YORKVILLE meets every Monday evening at 206 E. 86th st. This Society aims to educate its members to a thorough knowledge of Socialism by means of discussions and debates. Come and join. 321

WAITERS' ALLIANCE "LIBERTY" No. 19, S. T. & L. A. Office: 257 E. Houston street. Telephone Call: 2321 Spring. Meets every Thursday, 3 p. m.

WORKINGMEN'S EDUCATIONAL CLUB, 14th Assembly District. Business meeting every Monday evening, at 8 o'clock, in the Clubhouse, 528 East 11th street. English lectures every Sunday evening. Bowling alley and billiard room open every evening. Visitors welcome. 379

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